THE STARTUP OF THE RESIDENCE CENTER MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY, WEST PLAINS, MO.

by

Jenny Underwood
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Shadow Killer (Aug 5, 2016 book 1 of trilogy)

Kellett Hall was the first building owned by the Residence Center after co-habitating with the West Plains High School Campus for many years. Then in 1973, the magnificent four-story Howard and Ruth Kellett home built in 1910 was donated by Ruth in her husbands name who was a supporter since 1963, to usher in a new era in the History of the West Plains campus and of SMS, which in 1972 had gained university status.

The Startup of the Residence Center or Missouri State University, West Plains Campus

This book is based upon "A Historical Study of Southwest Missouri State University, West Plains by Camilla O'Neal, PhD. dissertation. 1992." The portions of the book written in italics are from Jenny Underwood.

Thanks to Garnett Library in West Plains for providing news clippings from the West Plains Daily Quill, other articles from the Ozarks History Collection, and editing.

Summary

The history of the West Plains Residence Center in Missouri is closely tied to the expansion of educational opportunities in the region. The center played a significant role in providing access to higher education for local students and contributing to the growth and development of the community.

The West Plains Residence Center was established in 1963 as a two-year preparatory program for students aiming to attend what was then known as Southwest Missouri State College (now Missouri State University) in Springfield, Missouri. The center's primary purpose was to provide a bridge for students who wanted to pursue a college education but might not have met the immediate requirements for admission to the main campus.

The center offered a range of courses and academic programs that allowed students to complete their first two years of college locally, before transferring to the main campus to complete their degree. This approach was particularly beneficial for students who might have had financial constraints, family responsibilities, or other factors that made attending a traditional four-year college challenging.

Over the years, the West Plains Residence Center expanded its offerings and facilities to accommodate a growing number of students. It evolved into a thriving institution that not only provided academic preparation for Southwest Missouri State College but also began offering associate degrees and other educational opportunities.

As time went on, the center continued to strengthen its ties to the main campus in Springfield while also developing its own distinct identity as an important educational hub in the Ozarks region. It played a crucial role in helping students transition from high school to higher education and provided a foundation for their academic and career pursuits.

In 1992, the West Plains Residence Center officially became Southwest Missouri State University-West Plains, solidifying its status as a branch campus of Missouri State University. This change reflected its growth and development into a comprehensive two-year institution that offered a wide range of associate degree programs and educational resources to the local community.

Today, Missouri State University-West Plains continues to serve the educational needs of the Ozarks region, offering associate degrees, certificate programs, and other academic opportunities. Its history as the West Plains Residence Center showcases the importance of community-driven initiatives to expand access to higher education and contribute to the growth and development of local communities.

Early History of Higher Education in West Plains

"A community develops first from a symbiotic nature; then it moves from its state of mutualism to one of cooperation for a good greater than the independent need of its participants. West Plains, Missouri, as a community, began no differently than any other city, but the elements that caused its early inhabitants to form a symbiotic union also forced them to transcend their state of mutual existence and establish an alliance so strong that now more than one-hundred-fifty years after its formation the city of West Plains continutes to be a metaphor for the word "community." The history of the development of the Branch Campus of Southwest Missouri State University in West Plains illustrates the qualities of cooperation, commitment, and perseverance that are necessary to forge a disjunctive, symbiotic group into a unifed, viable community."

Before 1963

"The census of Howell County for 1870 reported a population of 4,218, and for the next few years the immigration averaged approximately 100 persons each month. The 1870 census also recorded that West Plains had "a population of 300, four retail stores, one whiskey dealer,

one shoemaker, one tavern keeper, two wagon makers, a blacksmith, a brick mason, three physicians, one church and one school teacher."

"By 1890 the Howell County Gazette boasted that West Plains had two banks, one college [West Plains College was organized in 1890]...[and] three school houses."

"In the late 1890's, West Plains business leaders saw education as an egalitarian process and in 1890, developed a two-year institution, the West Plains College, that would prepare the area's young people for careers in education, business and secretarial work. Even when the college became insolvent and was sold in 1913 to the Catholic Academy for Girls, the community, through the West Plains School Board, sought North Central Accreditation for a two-year teacher's program as part of the West Plains High School Curriculum."

"In 1914 the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools approved subjects for teacher training to be added to the curriculum of the West Plains High School. According to the 1916 West Plains Zizzer Annual the 200 students in the high school were taught by eight teachers, "all college graduates," and were offered thirty-three classes including teacher training. Following the closing of West Plains College, a business school, opened by the business professor, was well supported by the community."

"Another college started, Moark Baptist College by the First Baptist church. In1947 bonds of $40,000 were floated and $15,000 was borrowed from the West Plains Bank. On June 3, 1948, the college commenced its first semester with 102 students. It closed in the mid-1950's but it pointed to the need for an institution of higher education in the area. In 1960, because many people who lived in the extremely remote areas of the Ozarks had inadequate transportation to attend area high schools.The median grade completed by 25 year olds and older was 8.8 years compared to 9.9 years in Missouri and 10.9 years in the U.S."

"World War II and the G.I. Bill not only brought numerous social and economic changes on higher education in other parts of the community, it penetrated West Plains as well. Before the war not more than 25% of all high school graduates could go to college. By the mid-1940's

Harry Truman's Commission on Higher Education had announced that 50% of all high school graduates could succeed in college. Soldiers who returned to this area could find no jobs so they moved their families to college towns changing their lives and the attitudes that colleges were elitist."

"During the 1930's many of the young people in West Plains who wanted to attend college traveled one hundred miles to Springfield, or 200 miles to Columbia or Saint Louis. However, the numbers were low, and the Great Depression terminated the college careers of most of the young men and women in West Plains who had to return home either to help out in the family business or to eliminate any "superfluous" expenses. These young people who had to defer, or deny, their dreams found themselves even more isolated from the rest of the nation, which was quickly becoming unified through the growing popularity of the automobile and the expansion of a highway systems that excluded, entirely, parts of the Ozarks. Desiring easier access to higher education for their offspring, however, these descendants of those "hard-working, intelligent, pioneers" inherited their forefathers "get it done" attitude and never abandoned the idea of having an institution of higher learning in their area."

The Journey Begins for the Residence Center's Inauguration

It all began when a newly elected Missouri State representative of Howell County in 1963, Granvil Vaughan, took a tour of campuses. He wanted to provide a way to have his constituents earn more money.

"When the group arrived at Independence, Representative Vaughan became extremely excited when they were shown around the Independence Residence Center established by Central Missouri College. He was discouraged to find that the assessed valuation of about $62,000,000 for the six county area was too low to form a junior college so he introduced bill No. 665 in the legislature to permit the Board of Regents from SMS to provide a two-year program of higher education in Howell County, and to confer degrees that are usually granted by junior colleges."

West Plains Daily Quill: Tuesday Evening, April 2nd, 1963

Introduces bill for Junior College Here

Representative Granvil Vaughan introduced a bill in the legislature today which if passed would permit SMS Board of Regeants to establish a Junior College here. The bill number 665 provided that the Board of Regeants for SMS may establish a division of the College in Howell County, Missouri to provide a two year program of higher education and to confer the degrees that are usually granted by Junior Colleges. Vaughan told the Quill he is not asking for funds at this time, but plans to later. He is backed in this bill by all the surrounding counties. Co-sponsors of the bill were Representative Ben Meeks of Oregon County and supported by Representatives Henry Gault of Ozarks county and Claude Gaulding of Douglas county. More than 60 people from Howell, Oregon and Ozarks counties appeared at an evening hearing at Jefferson City.

Dr. Traywick announced that West Plains had made available facilities in the high school for evening classes requiring no capital investments. Superintendents who spoke: Jerry Schroder, West Plains R-VII and president of the WP School Board; Dick Boyd, Oregon County; Walter England, Thayer; Charles Lane, Couch; Fred Pennyclick, Mountain View; and John Canfield, West Plains.

One of the challenges was to get the bill on the agenda of more than one hundred bills, but a week later it had moved to 15th from the bottom. The greatest opposition came from Rep. Earl Sponsler of Texas County who amended the bill so that two other sites would be considered. After much negotiation and fighting, a meeting was held on July 2, 1963 that gave tentative approval to open. The West Plains School Board proposed to supply office, classroom, and library space that would cost no more than $10,000 a year based on a census of 100 students for $100 for eight or more credit hours compared to $75 for the Springfield campus. Other state colleges at Marysville, St. Joseph, Kirksville and Cape Girardeau had established Residence Centers in other cities but had “Pulled their haunches” and canceled their efforts.”

The Startup was Approved

The Board of Regents of Southwest Missouri State college announced that:

- The Residence Center would open on a trial basis only
- Student fees would make the operation self-supporting

- The West Plains R-VII School Board would provide all of the classrooms, facilities and a librarian

President Leland Traywick placed a conference call to Frank Martin II, publisher of the West Plains Daily Quill and Granvil Vaughan on July 8, 1963 to announce the startup.

The Quill Reported on July 5, 1963 that:

"The Southwest Missouri State College board of regents today approved a proposal to establish a branch of the college in West Plains. The SMS college education branch is officially called a "Resident Center," but in fact is a two-year Junior college. The SMS Resident Center will have a primary purpose of providing first and second year college courses to students in Howell, Oregon, Ozark and other nearby counties who normally would not attend college in Springfield. The Board of Regents at SMS made their decision at 3:10 p.m. to establish the center here. Gov. John Dalton took a personal interest in the decision to bring higher education facilities here and was in personal contact with members of the board of regents up until the time they made their decision to extend SMS facilities to here. Earlier Rep. Vaughan had sponsored a bill to have a junior college branch of SMS established here. When the bill was defeated, this plan was worked out as an alternative to a branch here. Details of the financing of the college courses are to be worked out this summer. Classes in the first and second year will be held in the late afternoon and early evening. Facilities will be provided at the West Plains Senior High School. Credits received at the junior college here will be accepted at SMS and other colleges. The tuition has not been set, but it was believed that the cost to students will be around $100 per semester. It was estimated that 100 students in the area would be enrolled in the college and plans called for the teaching program to begin in the Fall."

Hiring Faculty

So, Dr. Duane Meyer, Dean of Instruction of SMS had to hire the faculty and create a liaison between the two campuses. They needed four full time faculty members with at least a master's degree who would move to West Plains. Outstanding scholarly faculty were sought and exact specifications of each department were followed.

They chose Dr. William C. Bedford, Former Dean of Christian College in Columbia, Missouri for the Director.

Discuss Opening Of SMS Center Here This Fall...

Dr. Duane G. Meyer, Dean of Instruction at SMS, was speaker at a meeting here last night with education officials from this three county area. Others shown with Dr. Meyer include l. ro r., Grover Taylor of Couch, Windell Hall of Dora, Dr. C. W. Cooper of Thayer, J. A. Luna of Gainesville, Alvin Dickman of Gainesville, Don Rothgeb of Willow Springs, Homer Davis of Bakersfield, Dr. Meyer, Oell Thornton of Dora, Raymond Epley of Dora, Ervin Johnson of Alton and Koshkonong.

Friday Evening, August 9, 1963, WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL

Name former Christian College Dean Director of SMS Resident Center

The Director has served on the Christian College Staff since 1938. He is presently completing his Ph.D. in the American Civilizatin program at the University of Missouri. At Christian College he was instructor of music, teaching history of music, music literature and organ, before being named acting dean of faculty. A Graduate of Pittsfield, Mass. high school, he has a bachelor of music degree from Syracuse University and a masters in music from the University of Missouri. In addition to his administrative duties, he will teach a course in literature and two sections of a history course.

August 30, 1963, Earl J. Nelson, superintendent of schools in Dent County was chosen to teach history and political science, Roy Mayfield, an English teacher from St. Charles was to teach English, and Loren Denny, a biology instructor from SMS was transferred. Adjunct faculty for the first year were Neil Pamperien, a Willow Springs High school teacher; Miss Christine Bartholet, a Spanish teacher at Thayer High School; Owen Worstill, men's PE, and Betty Renfrow, Women's PE from West Plains School district.

August 14, 1963, WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL

Dent County Supt. To Faculty of SMS Center

Earl J. Nelson, superintendent of schools in Dent County, has been named to the faulty of the Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center at West Plains.

Nelson, a staff member at SMS in 1958 and 1959, will teach history and political science at the new center. He is scheduled for two sections of history of civilization and two of American Government.

A graduate of Southwest Missouri State, he also holds a Master's degree in History from the University of Missouri. An Air Force veteran, he worked up through the ranks to lieutenant colonel during World War II. He has served in the Armed Forces, active and inactive, for 34 years.

A native of Montauk, he began his teaching career in a rural school in Rhyse, Mo., was principal at Licking High School, and has also served as superintendent of schools at Fremont.

August 19, 1963 WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL

Name Ava Man To Faculty of SMS Center

Loren L. Denney, biology instructor at Southwest Missouri State College has been named to the staff of the SMS Residence Center of West Plains.

Denney will teach biology and chemistry which opens its door for the first time here Sept. 16. He is a native of Ava graduating from Ava High School and began his college work at Southwest Baptist College. He has a Bachelor of Science in Education degree from SMS, and this week received a Master's in Education degree from Missouri University through the SMS Graduate Center.

During the 1959-60 school year he attended Washington University in St. Louis, doing graduate work in science education. He attended Washington University on a National Science Foundation fellowship. He has also taught in the rural schools of Douglas County and was science instructor at Aurora High School in 1957-58.

Denney served in the Air Force during the Korean War, and was surgical technician at Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth from 1951-55.

August 30, 1963 WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL

Name English Teacher on SMS Staff Here

Roy Mayfield, English teacher at St. Charles High School, has been added to the faculty of the Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center at West Plains.

Mayfield will teach three sections of English composition during the fall semester. The addition of Mayfield brings four the number of teachers employed full-time at the Center. Four others will teach on a part-time basis.

A member of the St. Charles staff since 1959, Mayfield also taught at Atlanta High School in

1958-59. He attended Hannibal-LaGrange Junior College and has Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Education, and Master of Arts degrees from Northeast Missouri State College, Kirksville.

He is the author of "Language Teaching and Learning: A Plea for change," which appeared in the March issue of the Missouri English Bulletin. He is a native of Belgrade, Mo.

August 20, 1963 West Plains Daily Quill

Name Willow Springs Teacher to SMS Center Faculty

Additional staff has been named for the Southwest Missouri State College Center at West Plains.

Neil Pamperien will teach mathematics. Pamperien will teach one course in mathematics during the first semester, and two during the second semester.

Pamperien, a native of Cauldwell, Ida., is a 1992 graduate of Southwest Missouri State College. He has a Master in Education degree from Drury College and is nearing completion of a Master of Science degree for Teachers at Missouri School of Mines.

During the past four summers he has attended institutes for science and mathematics teachers on the School of Mines campus in Rolla.

He will continue to teach at Willow Springs High School where he has been a staff member since 1954.

May 15, 1964 West Plains Daily Quill

Spanish Teacher at SMS Resident Center to teach at Mtn. View.

Miss Christine Bartholet of Cherokee Village, Ark. has taught the first year of Spanish at the West Plains Residence Center of SMS in addition to teaching at Thayer High School. Next year she will teach Spanish and special education at Mtn. View, Mo. High School.

A sailor won a lot at Cherokee Village near Hardy, Ark. and indirectly provided the SMS College Resident Center with a Spanish teacher this first year. Miss Christine Bartholet came to Cherokee Village from Tell City Ind.

with her brother and his wife who came to see a lot their son had won at a sports show in the East. Miss Bartholet liked it so much she decided to move there and build her 'dream house.' And this year she has commuted here three nights each week.

Coming from a family of educators, Miss Barhtolet received her degree in Muic from the Conservatory in Chicago, her AB degree in Education from Evansville College and her MS degree in Education from Indiana University where she had also done more graduate work during the summers. She has also studied two years at the Berlitz School of Languages in Chicago and attended Purdue University where she completed a two-year course in nursery school training.

She plans to attend the University of Hawaii for six weeks this summer. Presently a special education and Spanish teacher at Thayer High School in addition to teaching at the center here, Miss Bartholet has accepted Mtn. View High School for the coming year.

Before moving to Cherokee Village Miss Bartholet taught in the Hoosier Heights School, teaching music and girls physical education. While there she organized the first elementary school band and then when she came to the Ozarks she taught at Willard, Ark. where she started teaching Spanish to grade school.

It's the Greatest Thing Since the Railroad Came

Representatives from Thayer, Willow Springs, Dora, Couch, Gainesville, Bakersfield and Koshkonong met with West Plains school board at a meeting presided over by G. M. Schroeder, board Chairman. Although plans and guidelines were finalized at this meeting, the project was just beginning for President Traywick and Dean Meyer. A curriculum was to be set up, faculty hired, and a college calendar completed.

Meanwhile, the West Plains community was rolling up collective sleeves. Merchants offered part-time jobs and scholarships. Donors of scholarships included the Rotary Club, Reed-Harlin Company, Lions Clubs, First National Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Neal McCallon, West Plains, who provided a $200 scholarship, typify the thinking: "We want to help someone go to college."

SEPTEMBER 9, 1963

All Set For College Resident Center Opening Here

L. J. NELSON, History instructor, is e left foreground counseling a student at the Southwest Missouri State Resi- r. Directly behind Dr. Mayfield, Bob Grant and Edna Hooper are shown registering a Shown at the center of the table at right is William Bedford, director of the Center, ass ing several students as they enroll.

On September 17, 1963 The Quill Reports The SMS Center Opens Here.

The Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center opened here at 4:00 p.m. yesterday with 110 students. Classes were held until 10 p.m. and teachers expressed satisfaction with the first day of classes. Dr. William Bedford presided over a faculty meeting immediately preceding the opening of the center of which he is director. The classes convene on the hour with 10 minutes between classes.

Plans for the college which offers freshman classes only this year began July 6 after the SMS Board of Regents approved the plan. The West Plains School Board gave assistance in working out plans for the high school to be used during the evening for the classes. Next year it is planned to add sophomore subjects so the students may receive a junior college education in West Plains.

The First Classes

The curriculum was forty-five credit hours in chemistry, biology, English, history, mathematics, political science, and PE.

The First Students

All students were to have a physical and pass a placement test. Of the 115 who were admitted, 92 signed up for 15 hours and the average course load was 12 hours, and more than one-half of the students worked from 5 to 70 hours a week, average was 34. There were 64 males and 47 females. The non-traditional students were characterized by Dr. Bedford as "more mature and highly intelligent, serious students."

Bakersfield: Annetta Harris
Brandsville: Francis Hackworth
Caulfield: Charles Horn
Couch: Duane Wetzell (missing Wayne Wisehart)
Dora: Vera Bruffett, Carol Cash, Gerald Hambelton, Rodia Smith, Lyle Thornton
Gainesville: David Morrison
Hocomo: Larry Asberry, Vivian Eagleman, Jackie Roop
Koshkonong: Eddie Lancaster, James Thompson
Mountain Grove: Harley Riech
Mountain View: Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson, Marion Jackson, Mrs. Deanna Kendall, Donald Kendall, Mary Lawrence, Sister Ernestine Strapak

August 7, 1964
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

SMS Resident Center To Offer 23 Different Courses Here This Fall

The West Plains Resident Center of Southwest Missouri State College will offer courses in 13 different fields with 23 different sections here this fall according to Dr. William C. Bedford, director.

In announcing the schedule of classes here for the fall term beginning Sept. 14, Dr. Bedford said that registration will be held at the West Plains High School library on Sept. 12.

Placement tests for those new students with less than 20 college hours will be on Sept. 8 and 9 beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day.

Subjects for freshmen and sophomore classes will include: English, history, mathematics, music, physical education, political science, psychology, science, sociology, Spanish and speech.

English composition I with three hours credit will be given at 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

English IR Composition with the same amount of credit will be given five days per week at 4 p.m. and at 7 p.m.

Survey of English literature I with four hours of credit will be given at 7 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Prerequisite for the course is English II.

Survey of American Literature with three hours of credit will be given at 9 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Prerequisite in English II.

History of civilization with three hours credit will be given on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Survey of U.S. History with three hours credit will be given at 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

History of Missouri with three hours credit will be given at 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

History of Missouri with three hours credit will be given at 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Basic mathematics with three hours credit will be given Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Arithmetic for teachers, three hours credit, will be given at 7 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Music appreciation with three hours credit will be given from 8 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Women's physical education, fundamentals of movements, one hour credit, will be given at 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Women's physical education, beginning volleyball, one hour credit, will be given at 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Men's physical education, foundations of physical activity, one hour credit, will be given at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Men's physical education, gymnastics--wrestling, one hour credit, will be given at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

American government with three hours credit, will be given at 8 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

General psychology with three hours credit will be given at 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Prerequisite is 30 college hours credit.

Essentials of biology with five hours credit will begiven at 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with laboratory from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

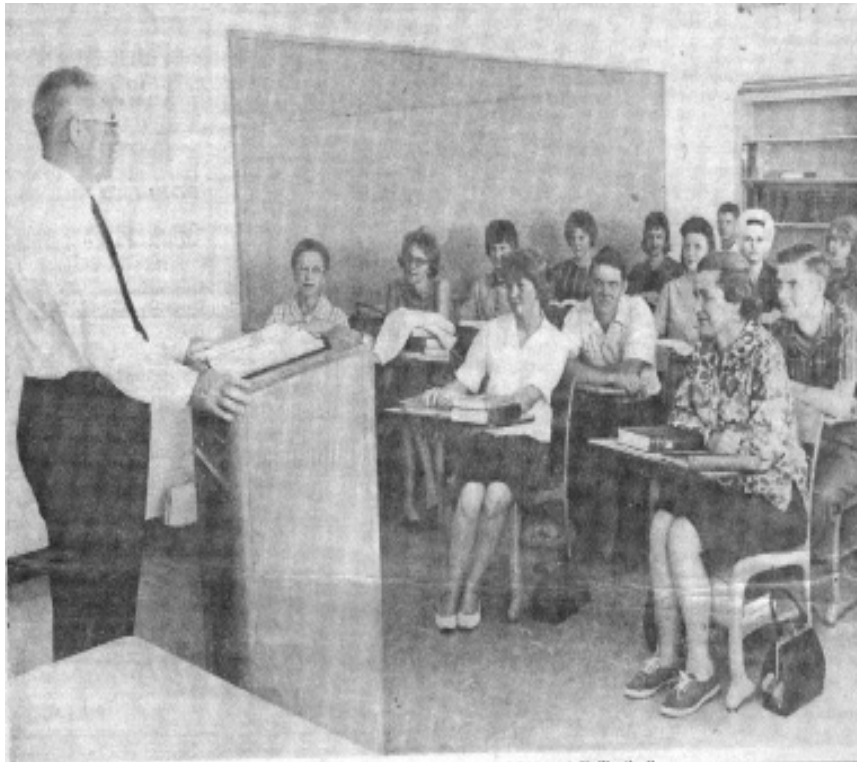
General zoology with four hours credit will be given at 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday; from 8 to 10 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Prerequisite is essentials of biology.

Principles of sociology with three hours credit will be given at 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Elementary Spanish with three hours credit will be given at 3:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and at 7 and 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Intermediate Spanish readings with three hours credit will be given from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Public speaking with two hours credit will be given at 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Prerequisite is English II.



Among the full-time faculty members is Earl Nelson, shown above with his "History of Civilization" class. Nelson, like other center personnel, has an extensive background in education. He taught on the SMS campus in 1958 and 1959, is superintendent of schools in Dent County. Said SMS Dean of Instruction Duane G. Meyer, who spent much of July and August fitting the pieces: "We're most pleased with the professional quality of our Residence Center Staff."

Springfield, Mo., Oct. 6, 196

Many south central Missou

ake a Schoolhouse a College Home

Approved by the Southwest Missouri State College Board of Regents on July 20, the SMSC Ros dence Center at West Plains was in operation by September. A faculty of nine, including five full tim staff people, was employed for the center. One of the full time faculty members, Orus Denney, i shown above with four college students. From left are Denney, Hallie Smith of Dora, Sharon Hare o Myrtle, Kenneth Selmon of Mountain Grove, and David Martinez of Gainesville. Denney joined the SMSC staff in 1955.

t To 3,000 Students In Area...

July 23, 1963

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI
STATE COLLEGE
SPRINGFIELD

LELAND E. TRAYWICK, PRESIDENT

)ear High School Graduate:

Since you have recently completed your high school work, I am sure you rill be interested to know that the West Plains Residence Center of Southwest Missouri State College will be opened in September. It will now be possible for many people living within commuting distance of lest Plains to attend college and live at home.

lere are some of the details. Classes will be held from 4:00 to 10:00 .m., Monday through Friday, in the West Plains High School. Students rill be able to take a regular schedule of freshman classes - English, athematics, political science, history, foreign language, and science. The work will be fully accredited and will prepare students to complete the last two years of college at Springfield or to transfer elsewhere. Students will pay fees of $100 per semester for an academic load of eight hours or more. Sixteen hours is considered a full load. For ess than eight hours, the fees will be approximately $12.00 per hour. ut-of-state students will be required to pay an additional $50.00 per emester.

rospective students are requested to meet at the Junior High Arts uilding at 1:00 p.m., July 26. Officials from the college will be resent to answer any questions you may have concerning the college rogram. The students will be given an opportunity to take our place- ent examinations and to complete all forms necessary for registration. he actual registration for classes will be held on September 7 at hich time students will be requested to pay fees. Classes will con- ene on September 16.

invite you to give serious consideration to continuing your education, nd I will be pleased to see you at West Plains on July 26, at 1:00 p.m. n order to discuss your future plans. Please feel free to write or all me earlier if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Duane Meyer

Duane Meyer
Dean of Instruction

ABOVE LETTER was sent out today by lege to 3,000 students in this area who from high school this year inviting them to attend the SMS residence center which in West Plains Sept. 16.

Myrtle: Sharon Hare
Peace Valley: Duke Kimbrough, Mary Kimbrough, Jack Truesdale, James Wiley
Pomona: Harvey Maxey, James Wheeler
Pontiac: Shirley Owen
Pottersville: Barbara McKee
Tecumseh: Paul Greenstreet
Oregon County: Thayer: Joye Ary, Ronald Belongy, Levi Bench, Jerry Case, Larry Dills, Robert Halcomb, Mrs. Verna Mainprize, Mrs. Wilmoth Smith, Mrs. Binnie Stephens (missing Marie Dills, Virginia Underwood, Mrs. Sally Cornelius and others)
Udall: Kathrun Poe
West Plains: Earl Bash, James Boze, Everett Brewer, Ronald Caplinger, Mrs. Allene Chapin, Priscilla Claxton, James Clennon, Kirby Cozort, Mrs. Elinore Davis, Henry DeShazo, Leota Easley, Julia Erzinger, Mrs. Helen Evans, Lenard Finley, Alice Forbes, Peggy Fowler, Donald Fox, Gary Gabel, Janice Gentry, Robert Gleghorn, Royce McCrackin, David Gott, Robert Grant, Roy Hall, Mrs. Mae Harbaugh, James Hawkins, Terry Henry, Richard Hill, Edna Hooper, Royce Hopkins, Marvin Ingle, Beverly Jeffery, James Jolliff, Jane Kelly, Mrs. Peggy Kissinger, John Koelling, Robert Koendarfar, Larry Ledbetter, John Lovins, Gary McClintock, David Marsh, James Matlock, Martha Montgomery, Jimmie Moore, Martha Moore, Patricia Murphy, Jim Mustion, Ronnie Newberry, Oral Pyle, Kenneth Ragan, Rhonda Ragan, James Rickman, Shirley Robertson, Kenneth Schmutzler, Peggy Skinner, David Smith, Max Smotherman, Mrs. Glyn Spears, Ronnie Thompson, Hazel Upshaw, Paul Van Giesen, Paul Washington
Willow Springs: Mrs. Jane Curtis, William Fisk, Margaret Flammery, Dan Kurtz, Nancy Matthews, Alice Seibel.

The Opening

"Having had the shortest organizational period in the annals of higher education, 71 days, the West Plains Residence Center on September 16th, 1963, opened its doors to 111 students; at last the long-held dream for higher education in the area had been fulfilled.

I had attended Arkansas State College in Jonesboro Arkansas following my brother Larry Underwood who was majoring in Chemistry after being in

the Air Force for four years. When I came home during the break, my Dad E.L. "Shot" Underwood told me to transfer to the Residence Center in West Plains because then he would not have to pay for housing as I could live in Thayer with my family. Both my Dad and my Mom, Alice Underwood Nix, drummed going to college in our heads as our future because while both were very smart, they had never had the opportunity.

I immediately coerced my friend Marie Dills Russell into coming home from Kansas City where she had gone to work after graduation. She did and we both enrolled even though it wasn't in the documents we researched.

We lived at home and took turns driving to West Plains for the classes. We got our books specially ordered from the library which was run by Dorothy King, of Thayer, MO.

It wasn't all studying, we had a lot of fun too. Our study hall was our parked cars with a flashlight. We met students from all over the area and socialized. We would meet after classes and tool around.

The courses were the basics and we took as many hours (18) as we could in preparation for a transfer. I transferred to University of Missouri after 3 semesters to major in Math but always felt I had a good education from the classes I took at West Plains. Marie went back to work in Kansas City but returned to the Residence Center around 1970 taking classes to be a teacher and finished at Springfield, MO.

The tuition was $100 per semester. The tuition now is $5,544 for the 2023-2024 year for missouri residents and $7630 for non-residents.

The Community Pitched In

Frank Martin, editor of the West Plains Daily Quill, is one of the center's most ardent boosters. "It's a wonderful thing for the entire community," He said. "I think it means more to us than in industry."

Mr. Russell Chapin, city editor of the Quill, is just as enthusiastic. "It's the greatest thing that's happened to our community since the railroad came in."

TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 12, 1963

Speaks 10 Languages; Now Mastering Spanish

SISTER IGNATIUS, MEDICAL technician at St. Francis-Am. View Memorial Hospital, who was born in Czechoslovakia is studying Spanish at the S. M. S. College Resident Center in West Plains. A group of 49 nuns came to this country to escape the Communists and to perpetuate their rder, the Daughters of St. Francis. Sister has not seen er family since coming to this country, but is more forunate than the other nuns in that she has an uncle and ix cousins who live in Chicago, Ill. The other nuns who ame with Sister Ignatius have no close relatives in this ountry.

Jan 14, 1964

SMS Resident Center Here Success So Far

William Bedford, directo of the Southwest Missour State College Center here told members of the Rotar Club today that so far th new branch college has bee a success and already holds a national record--the firs college to be organized an established in less than 9(days.

Bedford, in a situation report to Rotary members, said that compared with other new branch colleges in the state, enrollment here was probably above the number expected. He compared the original enrollment here of 110 students, with the 200 students that enrolled the first year in the University of Missouri branch college at Normandy in St. Louis, a large population center.

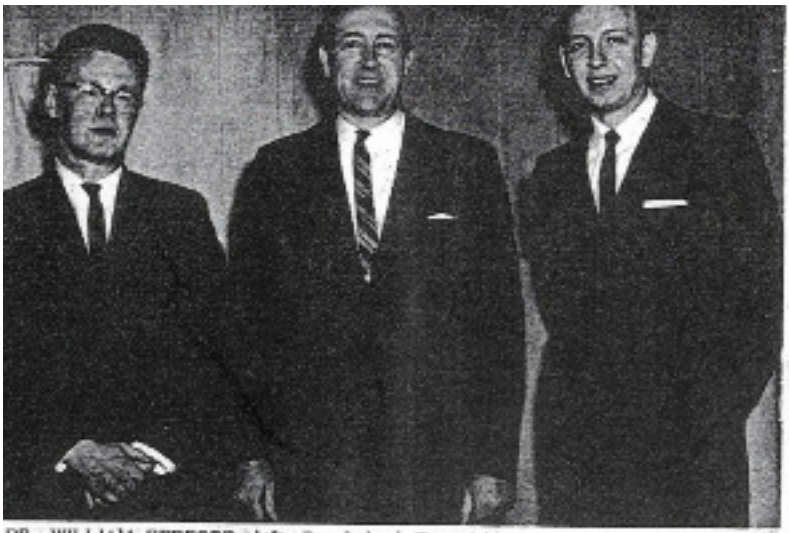
The college director pointed out some of the advantages of attending classes here over larger colleges as those of location, cost and smaller classes with overall better qualified teachers, due particularly to the size of the enrollment.

He disclosed that the drop-out of students at the college here was 13 and that it was a small percentage compared to the approximately 50 percent dropout of first year students at SMS.

Dr. Bedford said that half of the college students at the West Plains Residence Center worked from five to 70 hours a week while attending

He also disclosed that SMS has provided some $30,000 out of its own budget to apply to the college here and there were indications SMS officials were pleased with the results here.

Dr. Bedford said 66 men and 44 women are attending classes and of this number 26 were married. He said, with a smile that there was a possibility of losing several housewives now attending classes because of some husband's grumbling.



DR. WILLIAM BEDFORD, left, Dr. Leland Traywick, center, and Dr. Duane Meyer, ht, were guests of the C of C today at their noon meeting where the SMS Resident ter faculty was honored. Dr. Bedford told the group that the key to the future of the der is "use it or lose it." Dr. Traywick is president of SMS at Springfield and Dr. yer is dean of instruction.

SMS Resident Center Director Says 'Use Is Key To Success'

Dr. William Bedford told a capacity crowd of members of the Chamber of Commerce and guests at a noon meeting today at the Village Inn that he, the faculty of the SMS Resident Center here and SMS officials were pleased with the success of the center during the first few months of operation, but said that the key to the future of the center is "use it or lose it."

He told the group that the center here is down to the matter of education--"people who want to learn, being taught." He also said that the center has had a good relationship with the high school and that there is still useable space at the high school and no building would be considered until they run out of space.

Some of the things that are "working for the center" mentioned by Dr. Bedford, are that the center is convenient, cheap, centrally located and small enough for a good teacher-student relationship that creates a favorable learning atmosphere.

He compared the center here with a similar branch of the University of Missouri at Normandy. He said the branch at Normandy enrolled 200 students the first year, doubled the enrollment the second year and now had 650 students. Dr. Bedford said he had hopes for the same kind of success here, but a comparative number of students could not be expected here because the Normandy branch is located in a metropolitan area.

At the beginning of the address Dr. Bedford introduced the members of the Center

(Continued to Page Three)

Start Herbarium For SMS College Resident Cente

5/12/6

By Allene Chapin

If you have a hard time get-
g people to work on com-
ttees, you might like to try
method the party com-
ttee at the West Plains
sidence Center of SMS is
ng...it is sure to get re-
lts...The history and politi-
science department is
nsoring an all school party
the near future. The com-
ttee circulated a question-
re last night asking the stu-
nts what kind of a party they
uld like and many other

I checked, "Yes, I will help."

*****

Loren Denney, science teacher at the center, has the interesting hobby of taxonomy--naming plants in the correct scientific name. Sunday he went to Hammond's Mill and found many wild flowers which he pressed and is getting ready to start an herbarium for the college center here. I told him about the johnny jump-ups I picked Saturday that were just growing

--but I had to bring
...The others were
that stretch of road.

*****

Mrs. Chapen was so interested that she enrolled for classes "not just for self improvement but to help the community. I'm impressed with the school, impressed with the teachers," she said.

Reaction of the surrounding community is summed up by Marion (Buzz) Jackson, manager of the Farmers Exchange at Mountain View, which is located some 25 miles north of West Plains. "The residence center is of unlimited benefit to many of us in this remote section who want to go to college. There are four of us attending from Mountain View. My wife and I are both taking classes. It provides our only chance to go to college unless I gave up my job, and I can't afford that."

Whether it's termed a residence center or branch, most of the boosters of the West Plains program couldn't care less. They agree with Shakespeare, that "a rose by any other name would smell as well as sweet. It's college that counts."

Registration for Second Semester will be Feb 1, 1964

Registration will begin a 9 a.m. at the high school library for the second semester of the Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center and classes will start Monday, Feb 3 at 4 p.m. Dr. William Bedford, director of the center here, said that those students planning to enter the center for the second semester, but who did not attend the first semester, should make application so that a testing date may be set up.

Tests will not have to be taken by those who took the test last fall. However if they are not presently attending the center and plan to enter the second semester, they would let him know that their registration cards may be brought from Springfield.

Incidental fees for those taking eight hours or more at $100; seven hours, $88; six, $75; five $62; four, $50; three, $38; two, $25; and one hour $12.

There is a non-resident fee for those living out of the state of $50 for eight hours or more and $25 for seven hours or less.

Regents Announce: 'West Plains Resident Center Will Continue' June 10, 1964 West Plains Daily Quill.

At a meeting between the Board of Regents of Southwestern Missouri State College and the SMS Alumni Assn. in Springfield last night the board

Sen. Cox To Ask For Federal Fund Allotment For SMS Resident Center

March 10, 1964
IS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS,

Sen. Noel Cox of Ozark, Mo., said here today he will recommend that a portion of the federal funds allotted to Missouri recently in a special bill signed by President Johnson, be assigned for the SMS College Resident Center in West Plains.

As Republican floor leader of the Missouri Senate, Cox and other legislative leaders of the state will meet March 18 in Jefferson City with the governor to determine how the special funds are to be spent.

Education wil undoubtedly be one of the fields in which the money will be allocated, Sen. Cox said, and he will insist a portion of it be for the center opened here last fall.

Sen. Cox who was in West Plains visiting today was introduced at the Rotary Club where Burrell Beck was the speaker.

The senator has just returned from a trip to the East with the senate ad interim committee on education studying educational television facilities at Hagerstown, Md. and Columbia, S. C. which is said to be the outstanding center for this type of education in the U.S.

The senator said the committee has not yet decided what its recommendations will be for education by television in Missouri.

Sen. Cox said here today that he was not certain of the exact amount of the federal grant to Missouri, but it is a substantial one.

Request 2-Year Resident Center For Next Year 3/10/64

The West Plains Board of Education has directed the secretary of the board to write a letter to the SMS Board of Regents requesting that a two-year Resident Center be established here next year.

According to a spokesman for the board the letter will commend the regents and SMS President Dr. Leland Traywick for their operation of the center here and assure them of the continued support of the local board of education.

At the meeting last night [redacted] pay raise for teachers in the West Plains school system for the coming year.

With the present raise the salaries of the local teachers is still 19 percent below the state average according to the report.

The tax levy for next year was set at $3.45 per $100 valuation. This is the same as last year. Of this amount $1 may be set without voter approval, 65 cents is bonded indebtedness and 22 cents is interest.

The voters will be asked to approve 76 cents teachers fund, 62 cents incidental and 20 cents building fund.

The board also accepted the budget for the coming year and authorized the secretary to select election officials.

The deadline for filing for the school board was set for 3 p.m. April 1. Board members whose terms expire are Dale Hightower and Dr. Harry Kelly.

The board will meet Friday with the parents of three

Husband Decides On College For Himself And Wife; Both Find Center Conducive To Learning

What would you do if your husband came home some night and nonchalantly remarked that you were both going to start to college?

You would probably do just what Mrs. M. L. "Buzz" Jackson of Mtn. View did--you would go with him and give all the other students a race, grade-wise.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are enrolled at the West Plains Resident Center of Southwest Missouri State College. He is manager of the Mtn. View Farmers Exchange and Mrs. Jackson is stenographer for the Fred M. Craig Insurance Co. and also secretary of the Mtn. View Chamber of Commerce.

In telling about coming to the center here, Mrs. Jackson said:

"We read about the Resident Center in the West Plains Quill and felt that we had let too many opportunities slip by without taking advantage of them, as far as education was concerned. This might be our only chance and we wanted to take advantage of it.

"Buzz served four years in the airforce during WW2 and upon his discharge immediately went to work as X-ray technician in El Paso, Texas, but since he had a brother in Mountain View and Missouri was his home state, we wanted to return to the green Missouri hills. We have been at Mountain View for some fifteen years.

"We intend to finish the two year course offered here. This small school is a very great advantage to us. Being older, we were somewhat self-conscious returning to school. The students are wonderful and so are the teachers. The personal attention that is offered to every student is something that would not be received at a large university. Do not be misled that the courses are easier--they are not. The thing that makes it easier is the close teacher - student relationship.

"Our son, Greg, who is 11, is planning to go to the Resident Center when it is time for him to enter college."

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 13, 1964

Enjoy Going Back To School At SMS Center Here

MR. AND MRS. M. L. "BUZZ" JACKSON of Mtn. View pause in the corridor between classes at the West Plains Resident Center of Southwest Missouri State College. They have lived in Mtn. View for the last 15 years where Jackson is manager of the Farmers Exchange. The center here provided them an opportunity they felt they could not afford to pass up, and they are well pleased. Jackson takes six hours of classes and Mrs. Jackson takes 15 hours.

SMS Resident Center Here Will Be Expanded To Include Two Years

3/16/64

The Board of Regents at Southwest Missouri State College have approved a second year of operation of the Residence Center in West Plains and sophomore courses will be added with fees to remain the same, William Bedford, director, announced today.

During the coming year, the Center curriculum will be expanded to include courses in psychology, sociology, music and speech, if enrollment warrants. During the initial year freshman classes have been offered in English, foreign language, history, mathematics, political science, science and physical education.

The Center will again be housed in the West Plains High School building in cooperation with the Board of Education.

*****

Dr. Leland E. Traywick, SMS president, proposed a faculty of 10 for the coming year seven full-time teachers and three part-time teachers. Number of teachers, as well as number of courses offered, will depend upon enrollment. If enrollment warrants, 23 courses would be offered for the first semester, 25 for the second.

Enrollment at the Residence Center was 110 during the first semester, and 87 are enrolled for the second semester. Some 1378 credit hours were taught in the fall, an average of 12 1/2 per student.

Dr Traywick notes that there are 923 seniors or "potential Residence Center students" now attending high schools in Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Texas and Shannon counties from where the majority of Residence Center students hail.

Anticipated enrollment for next fall is 200. This would include approximately 150 freshmen and 50 sophomores.

Fees will be $100 for 12 hours or more.

In telling Granvil Vaughan, Howell County Representative, of the board's decision, Dr. Traywick said that the board had indicated that the classes must have enough enrollment to warrant their being taught, Vaughan said here today.

However, the average student load of all classes will be taken, and this will help, Vaughan said.

The budget was not set. It will be worked out later but both the president and the board made it clear that they want the resident center here to continue and expand.

The Residence Center is the first in the history of Southwest Missouri State College. The academic program there is fully accredited and courses are the same as those offered on the SMS campus.

More New Books Arrive

STACKS OF NEW BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED AT THE SMS RESIDENCE and West Plains High School library. Shown here cataloguing the books are Mrs. Dorothy King, Residence Center librarian, and Miss Barbara Dudley, high school librarian. Miss Dudley was in charge of the cataloguing of

made the following statement concerning the SMS Resident Center in West Plains.

"Dr. Traywick has said publicly that the Regents told him there would be no budget for the West Plains branch, but that it would have to operate on fees collected and any classes not filled would be cancelled."

"He implies that the West Plains center might not continue. But read carefully What Dr. Traywick has said. It operated last year on student fees, because there was no state appropriation for it. It operated at an approximate $10,000 loss, which was made up from local college funds in Springfield. It will have to operate again next year on student fees, because there is still no state appropriation for it. However, the Regents regard subsidizing the financial losses at West Plains as being an investment in education in an area where some students otherwise might not have a chance to begin their college education.

SMS Residence Center Enrollment up 43% Quill 10/09/64

The second year of the West Plains Residence Center opened with a total enrollment of 158 students according to Dr. William Bedford, Center Director. Of this number 119 were first time students, while 39 returned for their second year. In this year's student body there is a considerable number of students who have had college experience at other institutions.

Students currently enrolled at the Residence Center include:
Alton, Missouri: Geneva M. Cline, Glendon K. Cline, Janet A. Cline, Mary F. Johnson, Anna J. Thompson, Judy L. Waller, Bennie K. Williams.
Calico Rock, Arkansas: Virginia G. Hale.
Caulfield, Missouri: Charles L. Horn, Wanda L. House.
Couch, Missouri: Ralph Wetzel.
Dora, Missouri: Carol A. Cash, Hershel B. Hollingshad.
Eminence, Missouri: Anvil C. Welch.
Gainesville, Missouri: Ronnie C. Estes.

Hocomo, Missouri: Betty M. Comer, Arthur T. Eagleman, Carolyn M. Lair, Jackie W. Roop.
Koshkonong, Missouri: William M. Garrison.
Mammoth Spring, Arkansas: Imagene M. Burns.
Mountain View, Missouri: Marjorie F. Depee, Anise J. Holden, Elizabeth A. Jackson, Maxine M. Jackson, Carroll L. Justis, James H. Justis, Opal A. Kilcrease.
Pomona, Missouri: Jerry L. Hoover, Curtis N. Lance, Michael J. Stein, Delores C. Stovall, Richard B. Thompson.
Tecumseh, Missouri: Lawrence E. Bean.
Thayer, Missouri: Robert D. Arnold, Joye D. Ary, Elbert L. Davidson, Larry E. Dills, Steve R. Dixon, Roy K. Douglas, Howard Ferguson, Maria L. Halcomb, Robert G. Halcomb, David V. Honeycutt, Linda Lawson, William T. Lewallen, Verna I. Mainprize, James M. Park, Sherman W. Shipp, Hildreth A. Smalley, Virginia L. Underwood, Rosalie Wisehart.
West Plains, Missouri: Joyce K. Adams, Joyce A. Alter, Barry D. Ball, Gordon D. Barton, James A. Beach, Audrey L. Beck, Maude L. Bostic, Beulah F. Briscoe, Virginia A. Brown, Cay O. Burge, Donna L. Bussell, Jack W. Campbell, Bobby R. Carnett, Max E. Cates, Vivian R. Cates, Jerry O. Cherry, Nellie F. Chopski, Patrick E. Cullen, Joannette Cook, Wanda J. Decker, Floyd D. Deidiker, Henry N. DeShazo, Mary A. Edgeller, Norman R. Emerick, Bonnie L. England, Patrician A. Evans, Leonard W. Finley, Alice J. Forbes, Janice M. Gentry, Christine M. Good, David W. Gott, Roy G. Hall, Sharon K. Hammond, Kenneth D. Hanshaw, Mae C. Harbaugh, Annetta L. Harris, Nancy L. Henry, Jerry D. Hollingshad, Janice M. Holman, Shirley A. Horn, Kathleen E. Houck, Sandra J. Jarvis, Jane Kelly, Peggy J. Kissinger, Robert J. Koelling, Gary F. Lambe, Evalee Lasater, Eddie J. Lawrence, Mary J. Linthicum, Kathryn L. Longnecker, Matthew H. Lorch. Joe D. Lovelace, Max McAlister, May K. McLaughlin, Robert D. Metz, Charles H. Montgomery, Martha J. Montgomery, Jim R. Mustion, Eddie R. Myers, Ronnie D. Newberry, Nancy M. Palmer, Joyce L. Parent, Sherill E. Parrish, Helen J. Prewett, John D. Reed, Hubert L. Roark, Angie L. Robbins, David H. Sears, Johnny R. Short, Glen E. Sinclair, David E. Smith, Jr., Joseph W. Smith, Bessie G. Spears, Joyce E. Spears, Rodney W. Spears, Mildred V. Swick, Archie C. Terry, Ronnie L. Thompson, Hazel J. Upshaw, Marilyn S. Von Allmen, Pamela A. Weaver, Don D. Webster, Ethel L. Webster, Johnny J. Wheeler, Richard E. Whiteside, Linda J. Wilson,

Willow Springs, Missouri: Judith A. Estes, Margaret E. Flannery, Deanna F. Gentry, James D. Girdley, Galen A. Hanks, Elizabeth L. Hart, Wrex K. Hauth, Wayne L. Kester, James W. Kilpatrick, Micki L. Kirkham, Nancy A. Mathews, Barbara A. Sherill, Clyde C. Stuart, Beverly S. Thompson, Dwaine D. Turner, Clyde C William.
Winona, Missouri: John C. Scoville, Francis B. Stein.

Bringing Education to the Ozarks

West Plains Daily Quill
Wednesday Evening, May 20, 1964

Independence Mo. Examiner Features SMS Residence Center Here

Southwest Missouri State College's Residence Center at West Plains has been called 'the best thing that's happened since the railroad.' Why? Because it's …
By Ken Bronson (Examiner Executive Editor)
WEST PLAINS, Mo.
Ask most any person on the street in this South-Central Missouri city of 6,000 people and you'll probably be told that the Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center here is "the greatest thing that's happened for this town since the railroad."

Enthusiasm is high for the center, now in its first year of operation. For example:

- Over 100 students enrolled for the first term last September despite the fact the center was not established until July.
- Over 40 scholarships already have been made available to assist students next fall through a Chamber of Commerce drive.
- Enrollment is expected to more than double when the center opens for classes this September.

The West Plains Residence Center story, as exciting as it is, must attribute much of its success to the Central Missouri State College Residence Center in Independence. For it was this latter institution which can be sighted as the propellant which boosted the West Plains center into reality.

This story goes something like this:
Governor John M. Dalton, pleased with the tremendous success of the Independence Residence Center of Central Missouri State, called on Southwest Missouri State College President Leland Traywick to open such a center in West Plains. Traywick, in turn, called on his dean of instruction, Duane Meyer, to establish a new center. It was July, 1963.

"To be very frank with you, I didn't think we would ever get it done," Meyer said last week in an interview in Springfield. "The area did not seem to be in need of such a program," he continued, "but the people seemed enthusiastic about the idea." Later, he was to amend that last statement.

"I've never seen a community go so hot on higher education," Meyer now says, after nearly a year of operation in West Plains. "Now that they have the college center running full steam, they're out raising scholarships like mad."

Last July, however, the picture was not so rosy. Meyer was faced with the task of hiring a staff of instructors in less than six weeks. Unlike the Independence center, instructors from the parent college campus could not travel to the center because of the distance. It is 120 miles from Springfield to West Plains.

"We were very fortunate in obtaining Dr. Bedford," Meyer says in naming Dr. William Bedford as director of the Residence center. Bedford, a former dean at Christian College, immediately went to work and before the center's doors opened in September, a full-time staff of four instructors were ready to meet the students.

This area of Missouri, situated in the beautiful Ozark hills, is not densely populated. The three counties of Howell, Oregon, and Shannon, from which the center draws the most of its students, have a combined population of only 32,000.

Last fall's student body came from 19 towns in the area–including one student from Arkansas. Ninety-two for the 110 students took a full schedule of courses (12 hours or more).

Classes are held in the new West Plains High School building, beginning at 3:40 p.m. and running until 10 p.m. Since the high school is dismissed at 3:30 p.m., there is no classroom conflict.

The local board also gave the college a boost when it donated $5,000 to be used by the college in buying books for the school library. An additional $5,000 will again be made available this year.

The SMS Residence Center here, as does the CMSC Residence Center in Independence, offers what Meyers terms, "a solid course."

"Students in the Residence Center aren't wasting any hours," he says. "We're giving him (or her) the general education courses that are required for all degrees."

Meyers also believes the Residence Center can be helpful in stimulating interest for further college education.

"Many people who are going to the Center now simply do not have the income to go elsewhere," he says. "But those who excel at the Center may be able to get scholarships which they can use to finish their education somewhere else."

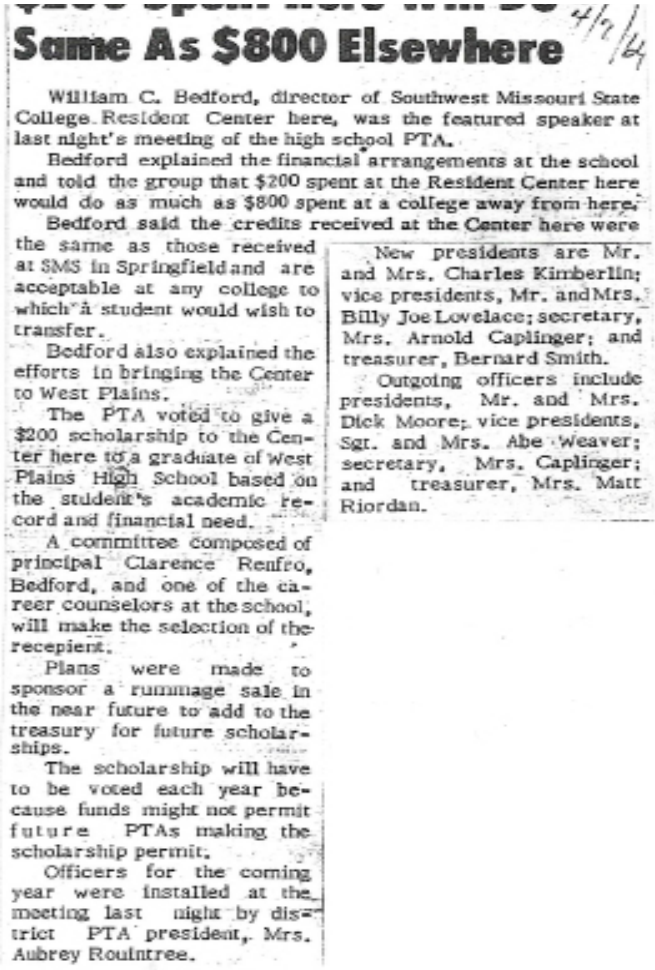
"We haven't noticed any drop in enrollment here (At Springfield), so it can't be considered competition in the least," he concluded.

Meyers does not wish to take credit for the success of the Center, however. "Much of the credit should go to Bedford," he says, "and to men like Art Gutfahr (executive director of the West Plains Chamber of Commerce), Granvil Vaughan (state legislator), and Frank Martin (editor and publisher of the daily West Plains Quill),"

It was Vaughan who harbored the first enthusiasm for a Residence Center. In fact, city editor Alene Chapin and other members of the staff are students at the center. It was Mrs. Chapin who offered the observation that the Center's course of instruction was harder than at the parent institution.

The Curriculum Grew

During the second year, the curriculum was broadened to include sophomore courses, as well as psychology, sociology, music, economics and speech. English and foreign languages showed the greatest growth as courses in English increased from 12 credit hours in 1963-1964 to 25 in 1964-1965. In 1965, twenty-four credits in business were added and 15 credit hours in foreign language.



Same As $800 Elsewhere

4/2/64

William C. Bedford, director of Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center here, was the featured speaker at last night's meeting of the high school PTA.

Bedford explained the financial arrangements at the school and told the group that $200 spent at the Resident Center here would do as much as $800 spent at a college away from here.

Bedford said the credits received at the Center here were the same as those received at SMS in Springfield and are acceptable at any college to which a student would wish to transfer.

Bedford also explained the efforts in bringing the Center to West Plains.

The PTA voted to give a $200 scholarship to the Center here to a graduate of West Plains High School based on the student's academic record and financial need.

A committee composed of principal Clarence Renfro, Bedford, and one of the career counselors at the school, will make the selection of the recepient.

Plans were made to sponsor a rummage sale in the near future to add to the treasury for future scholarships.

The scholarship will have to be voted each year because funds might not permit future PTAs making the scholarship permit.

Officers for the coming year were installed at the meeting last night by district PTA president, Mrs. Aubrey Rountree.

New presidents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kimberlin; vice presidents, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Joe Lovelace; secretary, Mrs. Arnold Caplinger; and treasurer, Bernard Smith.

Outgoing officers include presidents, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Moore; vice presidents, Sgt. and Mrs. Abe Weaver; secretary, Mrs. Caplinger; and treasurer, Mrs. Matt Riordan.

Per community input, the department of education and psychology was the largest concentration of majors with 88 students in elementary education in 1970-1976 and business was second with 49 majors. They tried to get a degree program and drafting for an Associate of Science Degree including computing but it was not approved for another 10 years.

The total credit hours in 1963-1964 were 48, by 1970-1971 the credit hours had been expanded to 110 courses in 15 departments. The Quill reported the course offerings by 1973 had tripled.

The Funding Struggled without State Money

The Quill reported on November 9, 1965 that the Missouri Commission on Higher Education was unfavorable to the Center. Rep. Granvil Vaughan stated, "The commission certainly has not taken a very broad view for education in the state. Many legislators are very unhappy about the decision."

"The commission is only a recommending agency and has no actual authority in the matter. We also feel that state colleges are not properly represented on the board."

Two of the commission members are from Universities in the state but there is no representative among the state colleges on the board. Vaughn explained, "These are good men, but they do not know the problems of the state colleges. The governor has already stated publicly his support of residence centers."

In the statement issued by the commission in Jefferson City last night, it recommended that Central Missouri State College cease to operate its Independence residence center by the fall of 1967. The decision, however, in every instance, rests with the board of regents of the particular school which has a residence center. The commission indicated it preferred the junior college plan in which several counties form a district to vote local funds for financing the school.

One of the criticisms the commission offered about residence centers was that it provides only the first two years of college education for the student. The commission also warned that a proliferation of residence centers

would undermine the junior college developments in Missouri.
The commission indicated that West Plains might be served by an extension operated either by a state college or the University of Missouri or by a scholarship program to send needy youth away to school.

An extension center usually offers the first year of college work with the students paying the full cost.When taking extension courses students do not have accessibility to science laboratories or library facilities, but the commission criticized residence centers on this phase and then suggested extension centers.

Yesterday the president of SMS College, Dr. Arthur Mallory and Jim Peters, a member of the SMS Board of Regents, made a commitment that the center will be retained here.

It took ten years for the State to provide funding.

The funding for the Center came from tuition without state funding for several years. Many battles were fought at the State Legislature. The Center ran at a deficit for several years, but the communities created scholarships and funding that made a difference. https://wp.missouristate.edu/About/history.htm shows that the first $50,000 from the state didn't happen until 1973.

Student Organizations

The book says "Although there were no student organizations during the first six years, there were numerous extracurricular activities. One of the most successful events each year was a SMS Senior Night held each spring for graduating Seniors."

I disagree with this because I found a picture showing a student organization of which I was vice president. I also found pictures of a dance party for both years. In 1964 a regiment of Army soldiers were deployed in the region camping out and running around which meant lots of opportunities for socializing.

May 13, 1964 WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL

90 Attend First Dinner Party of SMS College Resident Center Here

Before the party began - The camera caught these girls at the college party here last night just as guests started ariving. L. To R. are Virginia Underwood of Thayer, Vivian Eagleman of Hocomo, Margaret Flannery of Willow Springs, Patty Murphy, and Martha Montgomery of West Plains, Delores Stoval of Pomona and Mrs. Peggy Kissinger of West Plains, all students at the center and Mrs. Matt Lorch and Mrs. Henry DeShazo whose husbands are students.

Ninety Persons attended the dinner party at the SMS College Resident Center held in the high school cafetorium. The all school party was sponsored by the history and political science department and Professor Earl J. Nelson gave the address of welcome. The dinner featured ham, hot rolls, green beans, mashed potatoes, cabbage salad, and apply pie with cheese. Faculty members were guests.

90 Attend SMS College Resident Center Dinner...

This group was sitting out a dance at the SMS Residence Center party which was sponsored here last night by the political and science department. At far left are Mr. & Mrs. Earl J. Nelson. Nelson is political science and history professor here. Mrs. Nelson, a teacher at Houston High School drove here last night especially for the party. Jim Mustion is walking and seated, left to right, are Mrs. Evalee Lasater and her husband, Lloyd Lasater, Mary Kay hackworth and her husband Francis Hackworth of Brandsville, Pamela Weaver and her date, Roy Douglass of Thayer and Ken Salmon of Riverside, Calif. and his date, Betty Nesbitt of West Plains.

A Variety of Games were provided for those who did not wish to dance. Shown here is a foursome from Thayer playing monopoly. Cockwise beginning nearest the camera are Davy Earls, Robert Halcomb, Joye Ary, and Carolyn Risner.

May 13, 1984
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

190 Attend First Dinner Party Of SMS College Resident Center Here

MAKING THE EFFORT BIGGER - The runners sought their goals at the College party here last night just as guests seated awaiting. L. to R. are Virginia Underwood of Thayer, Vivian Eagleton of Bloomer, Marguerite Flannery of Willow Springs, Betty Murphy, and Martha Montgomery of West Plains. Dessert served at Pomona and Mrs. Peggy Kinslinger of West Plains, all students at the center and Mrs. Mary Leach and John Henry Jackson alone, husbands are students. Decorations included red and white streamers overhead, a canopy for the cafeteria ceiling and colorful balloons that floated from the light fixtures. Floral decorations on the table were of ice and lunch orange blossoms.

HAPPY PERSONS, attended the dinner party at the SMS College Resident Center held in the high school auditorium. The all-school party was sponsored by Assembly and Activity Council Organizations and Professor Earl J. Palmer gave the welcome of welcome. The dinner menu consisted of ham, pea salad, potatoes, cabbage salad, and apple pie with cheese. Most all those at the party were students and their dates. Faculty members were guests. The college will conduct classes next week. Final examinations will be held the following week. (Additional Pictures on Page Three)

One of the favorite dance teams in this area, Jeannette Forbes and James Talton, performed at the party of the SMS Resident Center. Miss Forbes is a student at the West Plains Residence Center.

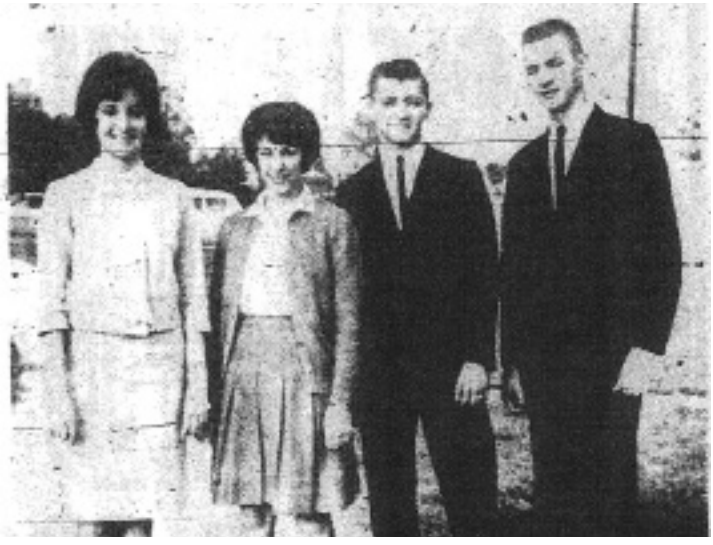
November 4, 1964 WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL
Sophomore class at the Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center here recently elected officers and selected an activities committee for the class. Shown left to right are Margaret Flannery, Willow Springs, secretary; Max Cates, West Plains, president; and Jenny Underwood, Thayer, vice president. Not shown is treasurer, Mickey Kirkham of Willow Springs. Activities committee selected included Henry N. DeShazo, West Plains; Nancy Mathews, Willow Springs, and David Sears, West Plains.

November 4, 1964
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

May 13, 1964
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

A VARIETY OF GAMES were provided for those who did not wish to dance. Shown here are fraternal men playing monopoly. Clockwise beginning nearest the camera are Jerry Estes, Robert Holcomb, Joyce Alef and Carolyn Rines.

ONE OF THE FAVORITE dance teams in this area, Jeanette Gates and Jerree Tilton, performed at the party of the SAE College Weekend Chapter which was held here last night in the Cafeteria of the West Plains High School. Host Fobes is a student at the West Plains Southwest Center.



Early Housing (Shared)

The West Plains Chamber of Commerce helped compile a directory of housing. While Marie and I drove at first, we found a furnished apartment in the Garret Building (no longer there) with roommates Joye Ary and Sharon Hare. The only thing we cooked very much was chicken soup out of a can. But it allowed us to work and stay in the West Plains area. I will never forget the day John F. Kennedy was assassinated which was blasted over the airwaves during that time.

Since the Residence Center was housed at West Plains High School at the time, classes were taught in the evenings, and sometimes students went to class every week night.

"If it was a five-hour class, you went all five nights; if it was three, you went three."

Classes usually started about 5 p.m. and continued until 10 p.m. "We were usually dragging by 9," Marie added.

During the day, I worked a part-time job at a local propane gas company. Every weekend we'd go back to Thayer and charge food on my dad's grocery account and take meat from the freezer at Marie's house. That food would feed the four of us for a week..

After a semester, Marie decided to return to Kansas City and her job as a typist at Montgomery Ward entering customers' orders. I decided to stay on for two more semesters, but I had to find another place to live.

My dad felt I didn't need to be driving back and forth from Thayer all the time, so he mentioned my situation to G.V. Kissinger, and he offered to put me up at his house. Kissinger and his wife, Peggy, who also was a student at the residence center, moved out of the master bedroom in their house, relocated to a small bedroom next to the kitchen, and gave the master bedroom to me. I tried to talk them out of it, but they wouldn't have it.

Entire Family Is Attending School...

IT ISN'T SUCH A PROBLEM to have every member of the family in school, according to Mr. and Mrs. G.V. Kissinger of South Main St. in West Plains, but they admit that that between working, raising a family, and attending classes it is sometimes difficult to find time to study. There are times when Welfare office and a student at the Residence Center; Bruce, 10, a fifth grade student at Reese School; Rodney, 13, a seventh grade student at Central Junior High School; G.V. Kissinger an employee of the Frisco Railroad, the Robertson Funeral Home, and also a student at the Residence Center, and James.

New SMS Residence Center Director Begins Duties Here

MARVIN W. GREEN

The new director of the Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center, here, Marvin W. Green, began his duties today at the Center headquarters in the senior high school building.

Placement tests for all students who plan to enroll for the fall semester will be held Sept. 6 and 7 from 8:30 a.m. till noon. Registration will be on Sept. 10 and 11.

Green said he is available for conferences concerning registration procedures and the college program. Persons needing such information should contact Green at the high school or at his home.

Before coming here, Green was assistant principal at Central High School in Springfield. Prior to that, he was principal of the Buffalo High School and superintendent of schools at Bakersfield from 1958 to 1960. He also taught at the summer session of Drury College in Springfield in 1962.

A native of Mammoth Spring, Ark., Green attended Arkansas State College at Harding, Ark. and is a graduate of Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn.

Besides his administrative duties at the college here, Green will teach sociology and psychology.

Green, his wife, who is a native of Harrison, Ark., and their nine-week old son are making their home on E. Highway 160.

Dr. Marvin Marvin Green becomes Chancellor

"Dr. Bedford left and was replaced with Dr. Marvin Green who presided for 20 years. Dr. Bedford was uneasy about the year to year approval of the Residence center operation and needed greater security for his family and wanted to be closer to a research library.

Dr. Green battled on for many years and pushed hard getting approval and funding. Perhaps the year-to-year struggle for funding, permanent status, capital improvements, curricular expansion and faculty and student development took its toll. On January 6, 1986, after having won the hardest battle in his twenty-year career as dean (the acquisition of the Central complex and state appropriations of one million dollars for its renovation), Marvin Green tendered his resignation. He returned to serve as head of the Department of Sociology and Psychology to teach the students for whom he labored so long and so persistently as dean.

In 1966, Richard Cochran was appointed to replace Loren Denny in science, and Stephen Schwab was appointed to teach history and political science. Also, Mrs. Carlene Young Williams was selected as an adjunct instructor in psychology, Ruth Temple to teach Spanish and English, Kay Garrett, English and speech, Thomas P. Socknat, history, Fred Merrill PE, Newton Brill, Jr. Business Law, and Thomas R Hathcock, Art. In 1968 Dr. Virginia Botsford, who had a distinguished career as an English Professor at Phoenix College in Arizona, replaced Roy Mayfield. Carol Silvey was hired as a history school. By 1969, the staff consisted of eight full-time faculty and eight adjunct faculty with more than fifty colleges and universities represented in their degrees."

The 1963 Shared Facility

In the beginning, the Residence Center Faculty shared classrooms and offices with the High School staff. Then they got a trailer to use.

"In 1973 the West Plains R-VII made a portion of a vacated industrial arts building to be utilized as office space as well as an area in the vo-tech building so that several business classes could be added. But the Residence center had no funding to repair the building. Graham O'Neal told the Rotary Club of the plight and they voted to finance the $7,000 remodeling project from the proceeds of the annual radio auction and for furnishing. The West Plains school let the library move to the vo-tech building and spent more than $8,000 on tables, chairs, atlas stands etc."

The 1973 Kellett Building

Then in 1973, the magnificent four-story Howard and Ruth Kellett home built in 1910 was donated by Ruth in her husband's name who was a supporter since 1963, to usher in a new era in the History of the West Plains campus and of SMS, who in 1972 had gained university status.

"The donation of Kellett Hall energized the community because it provided a visible expression of community effort. They raised $25,000 for renovations with another $8,000 for a steel staircase and fixing the exterior bricks. Students held chili suppers, slave days, car washes, and other projects to get equipment. They also assisted the limited custodial staff by leaf-raking and pruning in an effort to support the new campus and show their pride. Lots of labor and materials were donated. Kellet Hall was to have seven classrooms, a recreation area, a student lounge, a snack bar, a faculty lounge, and an office and receptionist area. While some classrooms and faculty moved, there was a problem with lack of parking. So the Center was gifted by realtors some areas and purchased other areas."

And other Aquisitions

"A study in 1984-185 showed the following acquisitions:

1973	Kellett Hall
1974	Kellett Annex and a parking lot
1975	24 ft by 70 ft mobile classroom
1976	Parking lot
1977	West Plains Campus Library
1978	Kellett Hall Addition
1981	Two houses and four lots
1984	West Plains R-VII School District's Central School Facilities"

Other Course Additions

In 1975, a business program produced its first candidates for certification with nine business courses added and eleven other courses including:
PSY 231 Psychology of Childhood
IED 100 Technology of Agriculture and Industry
HST 291 Ozark Regional History
GLC 110 Physical Geology
GLG 111 Physical Geology Laboratory and Lab
ACC 244 Intermediate Accounting I

AGR 215 Soils
AGR 200 Swine Disease
AGR 200 Cost Analysis of Farrowing Systems
AGR 200 Beef Forage
AGR 100 Technology of Agriculture and Industry

"In 1983, a computer lab with fifteen Apple computers was opened. Dr. Dale Talburt had been hired to teach computer science classes and to assist in generating the Associate of Science in Business Degree proposal in 1984. By 1985, the curriculum had approximately 100 courses being offered each semester and students were seeking a degree in forty-six majors."

Special Classes

"In early 1978 a dual enrollment for high school seniors served as a recruitment tool and allowed seniors to enroll for three hours of college credit each semester. (Now an ambitious student can complete two or more years while attending high school in the area.) In the early 80's, special workshops for teachers and two week, time-intensive summer courses allowed the Campus to bring in professors from Springfield to concentrate on courses of special interest, and improved and vitalized the curriculum.

The startup of intersession classes and the implementation of summer school helped broaden the curriculum which were popular because of the brief span of time and the topical nature. Some of these classes such as Geography of the Ozarks, Missouri Writers, or a history class entitled Ozarks Settlements, taught by Associate Professor Carol Silvey, lent themselves to field trips in the region or across the state. In 1988 they went international when a Literary Landmark tour of the British Isles for three credit hours, designed by Assistant Professor of English Connie O'Neal (the author of the book), provided eleven students with first-hand experience concerning the cultural, historical, and literary life of England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland."

New Name and a Nursing Program

The same year 1975 that the name Residence Center was officially changed by the SMSU Board of Regents to West Plains Campus of Southwest Missouri State University. State funding had hired two consultants with asso-

ciate degrees in nursing come to do a feasibility study, assess the hospital and nursing home facilities, and draw conclusions concerning the nursing program.

"The results of their study showed there were 226 prospective students and that there were only 10.7 registered nurses per 10,000 citizens in the region as compared to 41.4 in the state. The Missouri Legislature appropriated $25,000 for the proposed nursing program. In 1983 the Board of Regents approved a budget containing $142,000 to launch the nursing program. That fall the first class had twenty students.

In 1987 the nursing students from the West Plains Campus drew attention to the program not only on the state level but nationally as well, since they were ranked number one in Missouri and fourth in the National Council Licensure Examination Summary Profiles. Two of the eighteen students achieved scores of 3,200, the highest scores possible. In 1963 there were only seven Registered Nurses at the local hospital but two years after the ADN program produced its first graduates in 1987, there were more than sixty-five RN's on staff at the Ozark Medical Center."

Marie Dills Russell's daughter Jo Lynn attended nursing school in 2005. She immediately went to work in the ICU at Ozarks Medical Center and has an intense career in ICU nursing including doing stints as a travel nurse. She is one of the many beneficiaries of the nursing program including all the patients she took care of. Marie's other daughter went to school at SMSU and majored in Speech Therapy.

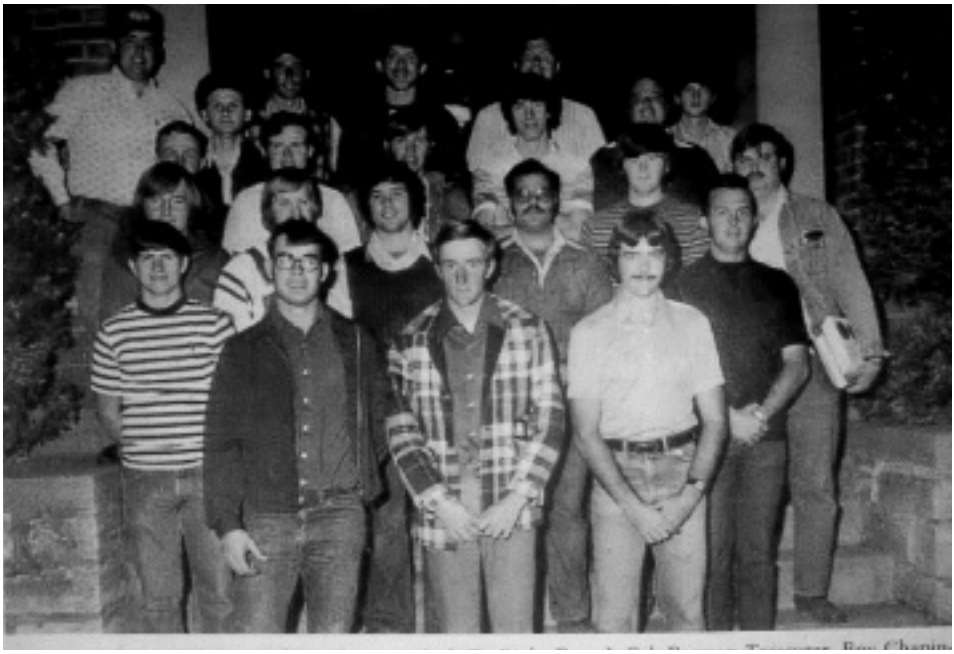
I returned to SMS WP in 2002 at the age of fifty-seven to get an associate degree in Nursing in the Kellett Building as it has evolved through the years. Looney Hall was built in 1915 as West Plains High School with state of the art allied health simulation laboratory. https://news.wp.missouristate.edu/2011/04/21/ribbon-cutting-open-house-held-for-looney-hall-2/

Agriculture

"The Agri-business discipline flourished. By 1977, all basic Ag courses were taught, a laboratory program had been added, and the agriculture program had become second only to elementary education in size. In 1979, the Ozarks Regional Commission, awarded the West Plains campus a $158,000

grant to build an agricultural program with matching funds from the state Legislature. The 4,200 square-foot building attached to the north wall of Kellett Hall included four classrooms and was completed in 1980."

Agriculture Department



SMS Agriculture Club-West Plains Campus-Left to Right-Row 1: Bob Borman-Treasurer, Roy Chapin-Sec. Mike Home-President. Row 2: ted Mayberry, Ronald Collins. row 3: Richard Basham, Larry Kimbrough, Jonathan Collins, Frank Encarnacia, Shann Caldwell, James Rhoades. Row 4: Rogert Wiggs, Steve Montgomery, Kelly Hinds, Mark Joliff, Robert Reid. Row 5: John Doss, Michael Cox, Scott McWilliams.

During the mid-1970's, The Agriculture department had expanded to 17 classes with an Ag Club. Lindan Shann Caldwell took classes with Scott Corman and tells of his experience. John Doss (son of Doss & Harper Quarry) and owner of Doss Feed Co. was also a student.

"Scott McWilliams was a teacher who is now a Missouri Department of Conservation bear Trapper and owner of Pumpkin Patch. Vernon Cooper taught Economics classes on supply and demand from a farmer's perspective.

Colin Collins of Collins Farms and Trillium Trust was Shann's first teacher and was always fun. Shann shared that his Dad knew Colin well and took him to a cattle sale on Saturday to have Colin give him a pep talk about attending SMS. He is now on the Agriculture Advisory Board to provide recommendations in curriculum, equipment, institutional technology, and market demand."

Dr. Elmer Shaw of Thayer, MO. taught swine diseases.

The Library

For many years the library was shared in the West Plains High School. In 1977, the two libraries separated and moved to a new complex with a book collection of 3,578 volumes. By 1985 its holdings had grown to 12,250 volumes with 1,500 in reference books. In early 1988, the library was extended after Central Hall was occupied. The greatest asset to the West Plains Campus library was its link with the main library on the Springfield campus, which was in the late 1980s accessed through its computer network allowing students to receive overnight service.

For several years the library facilities adjacent to Kellett Hall was adequate but as the student population increased, the strength of the library declined. The second stage of development at the Central Complex was started in early 1988 when state fund were appropriated for the reroofing and the extension of the administration building as a future library. Jess Garnett made numerous trips to Jefferson City to lobby and testify for the SMSU West Plains Library and his family generously donated funds which culminated in the 13,00 square foot Garnett Library.

In addition, the new biology, chemistry and nursing laboratories included in Central Hall complemented the curricular activities and made possible more course offerings in those areas.

I visited the Garnett Library for this project and was impressed with how much it had grown and changed including a very large computer room. They had folders and boxes of reference material for this history and many other topics. I encourage people to visit and even check out books.

"In 1984, the Learning Skills Center began when Dean Marvin Green and Connie O'Neal purchased more than $700 worth of cassette tapes and film-

strips to complement independent study programs in writing and grammar review. During the first year students who needed assistance worked in a portion of O'Neal's office which at the time was shared by four other faculty members. During the second year of its operation, a large cedar closet at Kellett Hall was turned into the Learning Center, and a space heater provided warmth during the winter months. By 1987, the program had grown to the point that it was moved to the offices vacated by Student Services when they occupied space in the renovated Central Hall Complex. Members of the Future Teachers Club, under the supervision of O'Neal, worked as monitors of the Learning Skills Center from 1986 through 1988. Sheila Wheeler, Barbara Reinholdt, Donna Pollard, Katherine Best, Edward Skinner, Beth Sanders, Cynthia Hall, Robert Cooper and Ruth Haley donated six to twelve hours each week to the center; they scheduled individual tutoring, administered tests to handicapped students and developed small study groups with other students tutoring each other. On an average day more than thirty students came to the center. Because of the popularity of the Learning Skills Center and because of the developmental needs of more incoming freshmen, Dr. Richard Brauhn applied for a $75,000 state grant which, when received by the West Plains Campus, provided money to purchase computers, software, and other equipment for the center. A full-time director, Dr. Lawrence Kenny was employed in 1987, and he expanded the program to include developmental reading, student assessment and the literacy corps."

Student Services: 1973-1988

In 1980, Kenneth Conner was employed. When he arrived he was housed in a small conference room with neither a typewriter nor a telephone. He made a list each day of all students' needs in order to place only one telephone call to the Student Services or Financial Aid office in Springfield.

By 1984, more than $274,000 was generated through financial aids for students at the West Plains Campus. Pell Grants amounted to $132,170; guaranteed student loans, $63,319; national direct loans, $19,700; college work study, $18,800; and Regents Scholarships, $11,288. Moreover, approximately twenty scholarships and more than $6,000 in interest-free loans from West Plains Chamber of Commerce were dispersed and twenty veterans received veterans benefits. "

The Old Central High Complex was purchased and renovated

"In 1983 The State authorized $350 million in statewide construction bonds. Representative Travis Morrison encouraged the SMSU Board of Regents to purchase the old Central High School complex. The R-VII offered the Central complex for sale for $250,000. In 1984 the Board purchased the Central Complex for $225,000. Dr. Marvin Green fought for financing the renovation."

Community Support and Scholarships

"Community support for the Center was unequivocal and manifested itself by the assistance channeled through the West Plains R-VII school Board, scholarships, loans, employment, and housing made available to the students by civic groups and the West Plains Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Fund committee. Rotary and other clubs (Thayer/Mammoth) all around provided scholarships. The popularity of scholarships was due in large part to the publicity generated by the members of the West Plains Chamber of Commerce by publishing an eight page brochure in1964 and sent to the 950 graduating seniors in the five county area. The chamber developed a student employment program starting in the first semester where students would indicate their part-time job preferences. Some qualified for such things as helicopter pilot, a chauffeur, baker, receptionist, stock control clerk, store clerks and waitresses."

"The community support estimated at more than $500,000 manifested itself through such occurrences as a $7,000 contribution from the Rotary Club for classroom renovation to a collective gift of more than $33,000 from area residents to decorate the Kellett family house."

In 1970 four agencies were approved to participate in the Residence Center college work-study program:

- The Social Security Administration
- Greater West Plains Chamber of Commerce
- Division of Employment Security
- The West Plains Housing Authority

The Buildings evolved

The area between where the Garnett Library and Kellett hall has dramatically changed. Houses disappeared or removed to make way for the sprawling campus. Peggy Kissinger and Carol Silvey worked hard raising money to compensate the owners. Some buildings like the Post office got the message and moved for progress.

To get a sense of some of the buildings projects, link to https://design.missouristate.edu/Projects/completed-projects.htm for finished projects and https://design.missouristate.edu/Projects/current-projects.htm for current projects. The vision for Master Plans to support growth is https://design.missouristate.edu/master-plan.htm

"On January 2, 1986, Dr. D. J. and Grace Putname rectified the lack of facilities for student activities by donating a portion of a buidling on Jefferson Avenue to SMSU West Plains Campus. The property included 3,696 square feet of floor space and an adjoining lots. According to Mrs. Putnam, the gift was made "Because we love that college very much, and we want to promote SMSU." By 1988 the red brick building, which was valued at more than $150,000, and had been utilized as a dentist's office, a heath spa, and the Missouri License Bureau, housed the Campus Book Store and a Student Union and interfaced the SMSU-West Plains Campus with the downtown business area."

Another building that stands out for innovation and new thinking is Lybyer Hall. The Missouri General Assembly included $4.3 million for the construction of a technology center for Southwest Missouri State University-West Plains during the 1996 session. An additional $900,000 was allocated for equipment and furnishings. The 44,000-square-foot split-level building was equipped with state-of-art technology, including a 54-station open computer lab for students. A community-wide capital campaign raised an additional $78,000. The dedication was April 14, 2000.

After spending over 40 years in technology, I was amazed at the way the building harnessed the study areas for learning. I took courses there and looked around being a bit disoriented in having started in a high school classroom in 1963 and attending classes in an advanced technology building in 2003.

There was talk about moving the entire campus to a donated area outside of West Plains. After much discussion, the decision was made to keep the campus in the center of West Plains to derive the benefits of community support.

Library Furniture Installed. . .
NEW FURNITURE FOR LIBRARY—The joint West Plains High School-SMS College Residence Center Library has been recently furnished with
newspapers and periodicals, a magazine rack, a
atlas and dictionary stand, periodical index table

Many new buildings have sprung up including dorms for students and an advanced activity center doubling as a disaster site. Grizzly House is a dormitory and Grizzly Lofts are suites from the old renovated Shoe Factory. The building also houses a kitchen that doubles as a restaurant for learning food preparation. Here is a link to Housing: https://wp.missouristate.edu/Housing/_Files/2020-resident-life-housing-brochure.pdf

The attraction and retention of students today has resulted in some unique buildings such as the GoCat Welding Center across from the Civic Center.

Here is a video of how the campus looks now after sixty years:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwlxJ7xtaZ0&t=12s

The Faculty:

"The number of full-time faculty from 1973 to 1988 did not keep pace with the enrollment or the curriculum. One reason for the slow growth was financial. Since state funding had been withheld for such an extended period of time, the campus operated mainly from inflated student fees. For several years after state funding was achieved, the campus played "catch up" in securing equipment and materials to provide academic support; consequently, there was not enough funding for more full-time faculty.

Another reason for the slow development of full-time faculty was the reservoir of outstanding, dedicated adjunct faculty, who saw teaching at the West Plains campus as a means of contributing to the West Plains Campus and to the community. While the number of adjunct faculty rose rapidly, by 1974 there were only eight full-time faculty. By 1979 the number had climbed to ten. The academic staff by 1980 consisted of thirteen fulltime and twenty-one adjunct faculty members. By 1983 six more full-time faculty had been employed. According to the Self Study Report of 1985 for North Central, the full-time faculty increased by 225 percent from 1975 to 1985, but forty-nine percent of the classes were still being taught by "supply" faculty.

By Allene Chapin

Approximately two years ago several Independence, Mo. residents interested in the West Plains Residence Center of Southwest Missouri State College visited here. Their interest was due to the fact that they, too, had a residence center. Theirs is a part of Central Missouri State College at Warrensburg.

When the men went back to Independence the Examiner published a full page feature story about the efforts put forth in West Plains.

Independence faces the same situation that is faced here. Therefore, it is with a great deal of interest that many here will read this comment from the Examiner concerning the visit to the Independence Residence Center of the Missouri Commission on Higher Education:

"It may sound hard to believe, but the main point which came out of the Missouri Commission on Higher Education's hearing at the CMSC Residence Center in Independence was that the commission is fearful of recognizing the fine job the center has been doing and is currently doing.

"This is obviously based on the fear of other cities in the state doing the same thing as Independence has done in meeting its higher education demands.

"And what, you may ask, is wrong with this "American way" of doing things? What is wrong with building a facility without the burden of a real estate tax?

"The answer rests in the fact that the commission is apparently well set in its ways that higher education in Missouri should follow only three paths--university, college and junior college. Some of the more vocal members of the commission who were in Independence do not want to recognize the Independence Residence Center as being a part of any of these three avenues.

"This problem, in part, may evolve from the nomenclature which has been given this operation. The term "residence center" obviously leaves a bad taste in the mouths of the commission. They apparently would not have the same distaste for a title like "Jackson County Branch of CMSC."

"This is based on the fact that the University of Missouri opened a residence center operation in Normandy (near St. Louis) the same year as CMSC opened its residence center in Independence. Since that time, Normandy first became a "branch" of the University of Missouri, and then was taken into the university system the same as Kansas City University became the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

"Although the commission made no recommendations in its hearing, it was apparent that several members would favor a junior college operation here--to meet what they readily admit is a great need.

But on the other hand, they admit, too that the tax base of Eastern Jackson County would not be sufficient to support a junior college program as extensive as the present residence center, oops, branch program.

"What the commission will decide in its final deliberation is difficult to predict. But as one member of the CMSC Board of Regents said: "They

SMS Resident Center Here Will Be Expanded To Include Two Years

3/16/64

The Board of Regents at Southwest Missouri State College have approved a second year of operation of the Residence Center in West Plains and sophomore courses will be added with fees to remain the same, William Bedford, director, announced today.

During the coming year, the Center curriculum will be expanded to include courses in psychology, sociology, music and speech, if enrollment warrants. During the initial year freshman classes have been offered in English, foreign language, history, mathematics, political science, science and physical education.

The Center will again be housed in the West Plains High School building in cooperation with the Board of Education.

*****

Dr. Leland E. Traywick, SMS president, proposed a faculty of 10 for the coming year seven full-time teachers and three part-time teachers. Number of teachers, as well as number of courses offered, will depend upon enrollment. If enrollment warrants, 23 courses would be offered for the first semester, 25 for the second.

Enrollment at the Residence Center was 110 during the first semester, and 87 are enrolled for the second semester. Some 1378 credit hours were taught in the fall, an average of 12 1/2 per student.

Dr Traywick notes that there are 923 seniors or "potential Residence Center students" now attending high schools in Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Texas and Shannon counties from where the majority of Residence Center students hail.

Anticipated enrollment for next fall is 200. This would include approximately 150 freshmen and 50 sophomores.

Fees will be $100 for 12 hours or more.

In telling Granvil Vaughan, Howell County Representative, of the board's decision, Dr. Traywick said that the board had indicated that the classes must have enough enrollment to warrant their being taught, Vaughan said here today.

However, the average student load of all classes will be taken, and this will help, Vaughan said.

The budget was not set, it will be worked out later but both the president and the board made it clear that they want the resident center here to continue and expand.

The Residence Center is the first in the history of Southwest Missouri State College. The academic program there is fully accredited and courses are the same as those offered on the SMS campus.

March 16, 1966 West Plains Daily Quill

163 Enrolled At SMS Branch Here

West Plains: Barbara Jean Alsup, Mildred Rose Amyx, Just David Baltz, Fred Auston Barnett, Dale Wallace Baxter, James A. Beach, John Frederick Boss, Larry Dean Bottom, Phillip Mason Bridges, Nellie f. Chopski, Lena Cooper, Dennis Clark Copeland, Charlott R. Crockett, Joseph Allen Cooper, Carol Rosamond Cupp, Jean b. Davidson, Hellen E. Davis, Charles Leroy Decker, Calvin Karl Dollins, Raymond Lindell Duncan, Kenneth Dwain Eckman, Alice Jeannette Forbes, Roger Wayne Garner, Charles Glen, Lucille Green, Mae Christina Harbaugh, John Michael Harrell, Annetta Louise Harris, James Franklin Hawkins, Cheryl Gay Hayes, John Hayes, Michael David Hayes, Sandra Jo Henderson, Clara Catherine Henry, Julia May Hopkins, Shirley A. Horn, Kathleen E. Houck, George Gilbert Hunsaker, Michael Jackson, Danny George James, Martha Jean James, Mary J. James, Nancy Imogine Kell, Jane Kelly, Charles Edward Kimberlin, Grover Virgil Kissinger, Peggy Jean Kissinger, Janice Ruth LaFevers, Evalee Lasater, Eddie J. Lawrence, Gene Raymond Ledbetter, Garry Ray Long, Mike Lott, Joanne Lowe, Carolyn Ann Lovelace, Joe D. Lovelace, Gary Lee Martin, Janice Lea McCrory, Patricia McDaniels, Kathryn McLaughlin, Sue Ann McNevin, Charles Montgomery, Martha Jane Montgomery, Robert Byron Moore, Preston Donley Morrison, Crockett Oaks, Glen Richard Parrish, Helen J. Prewitt, Greta Joyce Pruett, Linda Marie Raymond, Patricia Jane Rickard, Eleanor Sapp, Samuel Martin Schroeder, John Bill Sharp, Clarence Andre Shelton III, Luther Smith, Barbara Ann Stallcup, Lanna Kay Stephens, Christine Strong, Margaret Ann Summers, Vada Geraldine Talburt, Gale russell Thompson, James Richard Walker, Michael Eugene Warden, Janice Ann Watson, Jerry Dean Workman, Rosemary Diane Wright, Gary Ray Yancy, Doris Esther Zaiser.

Willow Springs: Larry Don Abbey, Barbara Louise Bennett, Jane Maxine Curtis, Paul Edward Darnell, James D. Girdley, Galen Alva Hanks, Gary Ray Holloway, Alice L. Perkins, Mary Louise Pierce, Barbara Ann Pigg, Lewis Edward Simon, Linda Kay Tetrick, Carolyn Rae Turner, Jack Whitaker Jr., Sandra Mae Whitaker.

Mountain View: Mildred E. Barnum, Marion L. Jackson, Sara Marie Jones, Jo Elaine Tandy, William Reece Tandy.

Pomona: Bessie E. Burgess, John Charles Jones, James Ray Ramsey

Peace Valley: Bruce Alan Bosserman, Alice Herwald

Pottersville: Martha Jane Garrett

Thayer: Joye Dianne Ary, Dorothy Barbee, Ronald Emmett Belongy, John

Wayne Brewer, Sarah Jo Crews, Leon DuBois, Sherry Dianne Edwards, Walter Charlie Green, Maria L. Halcomb, Wilma Fae Hertzler, Mike Elijah Honeycutt, Robert Lewis Martin, Linda Louise Mooney, Jim Daryl Peebles, Jo Beth Thomas, Richard Trimble.
Alton: Rondal Joe Campbell, Garnett Leslie Douglass, Larry Simmons.
Koshonong: John C. Worel
Dora: James Arthur Cobb, Donald Wayne Hamby
Bakersfield: Wayman Eugene Hager
Gainesville: Ronnie Cyrus Estes, Bobby C. Robbins, Kenneth Louis Strong
Tecumseh: Sheridon Endiocott
Vanzant: Carolyn Ruth Collins
Mountain Grove: Gene Marie Smith, Frankie Jean Postlewaite
Birth Tree: Ruth M. Holman, Harry S. Summers
Winona: Joe W. Davis, John Carl Kuessner, James Lowell Tucker, Gilford Lee Wright.
Eminence: Anvil C. Welch
Cabool: Thomas Max Freeman
Summersville: Emma J. Bailey

September 22, 1966

Enrollment at SMS Center 175

Enrollment at the Southwest Missouri State College branch here has risen since the beginning of classes last week from 165 to 175 persons, according to the director Marvin Green. Students are attending the school from 20 different towns in nine countries in Missouri.

Twenty-six of the students are attending on scholarships donated by the Chamber of Commerce in **West Plains**. These include from:
West Plains, Barbara Jean Alsup, Philip Mason Bridges, Michael Cochran, Bruce Monroe Collins, John Joseph Feller, Susan Ruth Frese, Penny Mae Hawkins, Rickey Wayne Johnson, Janice L. McCrory, Theresa Darlene McNicholas, Terry Powers, Linda Marie Raymond, Phyllis Ann Reel, Barbara Ann Stallcup, Kaye Stephens, Marilyn Marie White and Clara Catherine Henry.
From **Thayer**, Sara Jo Crews, Sherry Dianne Edwards, Wilma Fae Hertzler, E. Michael Honeycutt, and Jim D. Peebles
From **Dora**, Carolyn ruth Collins; from **Bakersfield**, Wanda Lee House; from **Mtn. View**, Sara Marie Jones; and from **Willow Springs;** Martha Leona Morgan.

Other students enrolled at the school and their home towns include:
West Plains: Ronald W. Adams, Carl W. Ball, Gordon D. Barton, Carl r. Beavers II, Barbara L. Bennett, Vicki L. Boss, Larry D. Bottom, Dallas D. Brotherton, Glenn Brown, Delbert N. Camden, Larry P. Camden, Bonita J. Chapin, Nellie F. Chopski, Ada Rader Cochran, William c. Collins, Kenneth L. Collins, William R. Craig, Patrick E. Cullen, Carol R. Cupp.

Hillard W. Davis, Charles L. Decker, Michael D. Decker, George B. DeClue, Ronald O. Dixon, Nannette M. Edwards, Martha J. Garrett, Charles E. Glenn, Christine M. Good, Ronald W. gould, Leonard Grannemann, Lucille Greene, Michael W. Griffin, Carolyn J. Guilliams, Gwenda S. Hall, Mae C. Harbaugh, John M. Harrell, Larry Hayes, Michael D. Hayes, Richard J. Hayes, William Henry, Janice Holman, Curtis Huff, Mary J. James, Stanley Jeffrey, Gary w. Johnson, Elaine Jolliff, James H. Jolliff, Jane Kelly, Peggy J. Kissinger, Evalee Lasater, Eddie J. Lawrence, Ronald B. Lewis, Carolyn J. Long, Joanne Lowe, Idella McHan.

Karolyn Melton, Charles Montgomery, Robert B. Moore, Eugene Murphy, Mike Newton, Michael b. Pace, Greta J. Pruett, Melvin C. Reais, Marimartha Ritter, William D. Rogers, John L. Ryan, Saundra K. Sargent, John B. Sharp, Phillip F. Shelton, Evelyn Gayle Skaggs, Robert S. Smith, Norman E. Smith, Rodney W. Spears, Beverly Spence, Margaret A. Summers, Mildred V. Swick, Vada G. Talburt, Stanley Taylor, Robin Terry, Charles E. Tulk, Karyn S. Vaughan, Janice K. Wallace, Vicki L. Warren, Richard g. Watson, Esther Webb, Wilmer Ray Webb, Byron Wilcox, Jerry Workman, Rosemary D. Wright, Doris e. Zaiser, Kenneth Lung.

Willow Springs: Jane Me. Curtis, Helen E. Davis, John A. Foster III. James D. Girdley, Sammy R. head, Kenneth W. Miller, Mary L. Pierce, Martha E. Pierce, Lewis E. Simon, David N. Steele, Jack Whitaker.

Mtn. View: Mildred E. Barnum, Willard D. Collins, Carolyn J. Jenkins, Lavonne Justis, Robert L. Miller, Susan K. Pierce, Sharon Triplett, Sue Yarber.

Hocomo: Mary A. Campbell, Joyce Peterman, Terry R. Reid
Caulfield: Julius Fast
Pottersville: James L. Woods
Thayer: Dorothy L. Barbee, Ronald E. Belongy, David C. Bowen, Leon G. Dubois, Larry D. Grimes, Bette J. Minich, Linda L. Mooney, Dorys E. Ward
Alton: Curtis E. Barton, Gilbert Bates, Catherine Braswell, Eva f. Morris, Larry Smallwood, Betty L. Gum.
Koshkonong: Jeannette Reynolds, Thomas M. Staley
Dora: Herschel Hollingshad, Donald W. Hamby
Bakersfield: Wanda L. House
Gainesville: Sheridan G. Endicott and Michael P. Estes.
Mountain Grove: Ronald O. Dodds, James L. Short, Alice L. Perkins
Birch Tree: Robert C. Moger, Harry S. Summers.
Cabool: Frederick L. Carroll
Caruthersville: Larry W. Adams, Michael D. Jackson
Clifton Hill: Fred Burns
Sturdivant: Nancy L. Kinnison
Brandsville: Lloyd B. Lasater
Summersville: David Riley

The Dean Marvin W. Green Resigns:

"After twenty years as head of the West Plains Campus, Dean Marvin Green stunned his faculty and staff when he announced his resignation at the conclusion of a faculty meeting January 10, 1986. During his tenure Dean Green had been the public relations person, recruitment oficer, business manager, academic director, and student counselor. If State Representative Granvil Vaughan had been the grandfather of the West Plains Campus, then Dean Green was the father, since, like a parent, he never took "no" for an answer when he knew what was right for the campus.

The community was also shocked by the resignation. On June 6, 1986, a Dean Marvin Green Recognition Dinner was held at the Ramada Inn with 175 guests in attendance to pay tribute to him. Frank Martin III, publisher of the West Plains Daily Quill articulated the sentiments of the community in his January 22, 1986, editorial acknowledging Dean Marvin Green:

"Not enough can be said about the growth of the West Plains Campus of Southwest Missouri State University under the stewardship of Dean Marvin Green. Similarly, not enough good things can be said about that stewardship.

In his 20 years at the helm, Dean Green saw the institution grow from a toddling night school that shared the high school's facilities to a bustling multi-building campus with more than 600 students.

In between, the dean nursed the school from its infancy as a Residence Center through permanent status to a campus that is thought of as an almost separate entity from its god-parent in Springfield.

We once heard a faculty member remark that progress at the school sometimes seemed slow because Dean Green believed he need to leave his personal thumbprint on every program, addition, and project. We believe it is because the Dean left his imprint on each aspect of the school's programs that so much progress has been achieved. His signature has all but assured success.

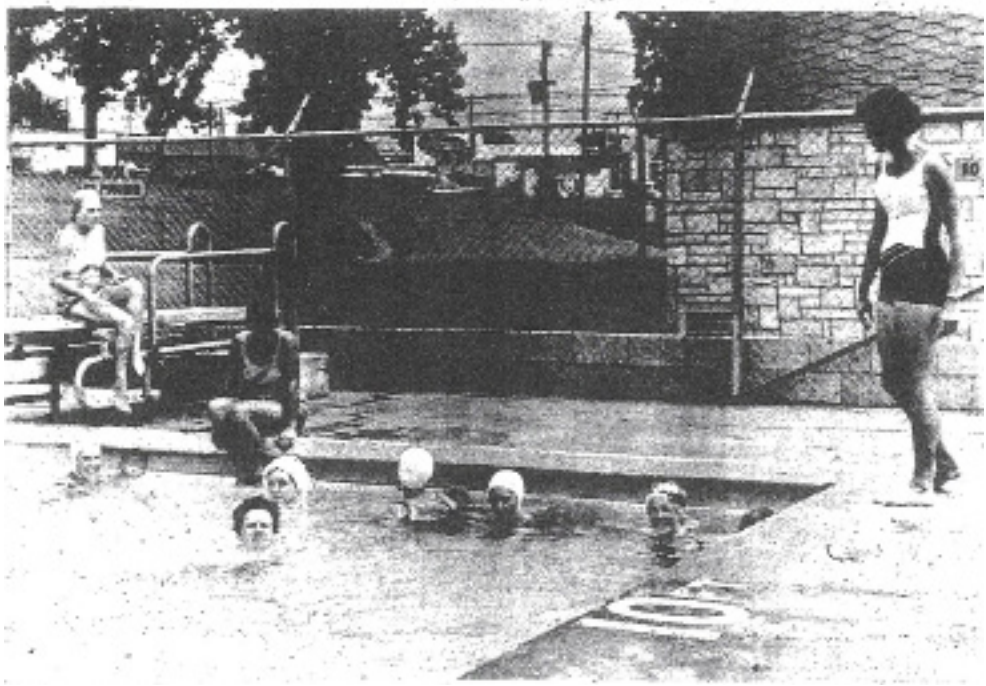
When Marvin Green retires from the Deanship this summer he will leave behind some big shoes to fill, but his legacy is an organization which will be great help to his successor.

We are happy that after 20 years the dean will get a chance for some time off to work on a project he values and that after its completion he plans to return to the local campus as a teacher. It will be difficult to replace Marvin Green the Dean, but it would be doubly diffcult to replace Marvin Green, the good citizen and community leader."

Nov 1, 1990 News and Leader, Springfield, MO. One of the most determined faculties of any college, anywhere, is that at the SMS Residence Center at West Plains. The teachers are, front row, left to right: Miss Neva Martin, library science, Mrs. Carol Silvey, history, Dr. Vernon Cooper, economics, Neil Pamperien, math, Marvin Green, dean and assistant professor of education, Roy Mayfield, english, and Rick Cochran, life sciences

July 26, 1967
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

Take SMS Swimming Course...



Shown are members of the Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center Swimming course held this summer from 11 o'clock to 12 o'clock on Monday through Friday. Students received one hour of college credit for the eight week swimming course. Members of the class were Marcella Bryson, May Harbough, Becky Kirk, Jane Kelly, Mary Kelly, Idella McHan, Greta Priutt, Alice Rader, Mary Martha Ritter, Joyce Spears, Margaret Summers, Karen Vaughan, and Doris Zalzer and course instructor Mrs. Betty Renfrow.

December 5, 1967
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

S.M.S. Residence Center Adds Ten New Courses To Next Semester Schedule

Ten new courses have been added to the schedule for the West Plains Southwest Missouri State Residence Center Spring Semester for 1968. The courses are: Art for Elementary Teachers; Accounting II; Culture Worlds; American Literature; Constitutional History of Modern English; International Relations; Folk and Square Dancing; Health and Hygiene; Sociology 171 (The Community); and Oral Interpretation. According to Marvin Green, Director of the Center, registration for the Spring Semester begins January 27, placement tests for beginning freshmen will be given January 20, classes will begin January 29, and the semester will end May 24.

The entire schedule of 34 courses for the Spring Semester 1968 is as follows: ART -- course no. 265, two credits, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., TTh, Room 115, title -- Art for Elem. Tchrs., Hathcock - instructor. BUSINESS -- course no. 141, three credits, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., MWF, room 210, Accounting II, Briscoe - instr. EARTH SCIENCE -- course no. 100, three credits, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., MWF, room 152, title - Culture Worlds, Nelson - instr.

ENGLISH -- course no. 10 and 11, three credits, 4:00 - 5:00, MWF, room 228, title - Composition, Temple - instr.; course no. 20, three credits, 5:00 - 6:00, MWF, room 228, Composition, Garrett - instr.; course no. 20, three credits, 9:00 - 10:00 MWF, room 210, Composition, Mayfield - instr.; course no. 20, three credits, 7:00 - 8:00, MWF, room 118, Composition, Temple; course no. 141, three credits, 6:00 - 6:00 M-Th, room 210, English Literature, Mayfield; course no. 101, three credits, 7:00 - 8:00, MWF, room 210, Exposition, Mayfield; course no 251, three credits, 8:00 - 9:00, MWF, room 210, American Literature, Mayfield.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE -- course no. SPN 133, three credits, 5:00 - 6:00, MWF, room 137, Intermediate Spanish, Temple; course no. Spn. 23, three credits, MWF, room 137, Spanish, Temple. HISTORY -- course no. 102, three credits, 4:00 - 5:00, MWF, room 152, History of Civilization, Nelson; course no. 102, three credits, 5:00 - 6:00, MWF, room 152, History of Civilization, Nelson; course no. 122, three credits, 9:00 - 10:00 MWF, room 152, Survey of U. S. History, Socknat; course no. 261, three credits, 8:00 - 9:00, MWF, room 118, Constitutional History of Modern England, Socknat.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS -- course no. 221, three credits, 7:00 - 8:00, MWF, room 152, title - International Relations, Socknat. MATHEMATICS -- course no. 70, three credits, 7:00 - 8:00, MWF, room 118, title - Basic Math, Pamperien; course no. 80, two credits, 8:00 - 9:00, TTh, room 116, title - Trigonometry, Pamperien; course no. 130, two credits, 6:00 - 7:00, TTh, room 116, College Algebra, Pamerien; course no. 210, three credits, 8:00 - 9:00, MWF, room 116, Math for Elementary Tchrs., Pamperien.

POLITICAL SCIENCE -- course no. 101, three credits, 6:00 - 7:00, MWF, room 118, American Govt. (Organ.), Socknat; course no. 102, three credits, MWF, room 152, Amer. Govt. (Funct.) Nelson. PHYSICAL EDUCATION -- course no. PED 126, one credit, 4:00 - 5:00, TTh, room W. Gym, Folk and Square Dancing, Renfrow; course no. PED 143, one credit, 5:00 - 6:00, TTh, W. Gym, Tennis, Renfrow; course no. MPE 113, one credit, 7:00 - 8:00, TTh, M. Gym, Soccer - Volley ball, Merrell; course no. PED 155, one credit, 6:00 - 7:00, TTh, room 116, Health and Hygiene, Merrell.

PSYCHOLOGY -- course no 150, two credits, 7:00 - 8:00, TTh, room 152, Ed Psy. for Elem. Tchrs., Green; course no. 190, two credits, 8:00 - 9:00, TTh, room 152, Ed. Psy., Green. SCIENCE -- course no. Sci. 101, four credits, 5:00 - 6:00, MW, room 116, Phys. Sci. for Elem. Tchrs., Pamperien, and laboratory for that course from 5:00 - 6:00, TTh, room 116; course no. Bio. 134, five credits, 4:00 - 5:00, MWF, room 229, General Botany, Cochran, with laboratory for that course from 4:00 - 6:00, TTh, room 229; course no. Bio. 167, five credits, 8:00 - 9:00, MWF, room 229, General Zoology, Cochran, with laboratory from 9:00 - 10:00, TTh, room 229.

SOCIOLOGY -- course no. 160, three credits, 4:00 - 5:00, MWF, room 118, Social Institutions, Green; course no. 171, three credits, 5:00 - 6:00, MWF, room 152, Soc. 171 (The Community), Green. SPEECH -- course no. 126, two credits, 6:00 - 7:00, MWF, room 228, Public Speaking, Garrett; course no. 142, three credits, 7:00 - 8:00, MWF, room 228, Speech for Elem. Tchrs., Garrett; course no. 150, three credits, 9:00 - 10, MWF, room 137, Oral Interpretation, Garrett.

November 16, 1966
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

Take Steps To Form 3-County State Junior College District

May Be Last Year For Residence Center

Propose Howell, Ozark, Oregon Counties Join In Project To Start College With State Supported Funds

The first steps to organize Howell, Oregon and Ozark counties into a state junior college district were taken last night at a meeting of 20 West Plains business and professional men with a representative of the Missouri Department of Education from Jefferson City.

A second meeting is being called for next Monday at the Howell County Court House where the three county superintendents of schools, high school principals of the three counties and all presidents of school boards will discuss the proposal.

At last night's meeting, called at the request of two members of the West Plains Chamber of Commerce and arranged by Superintendent of Schools John Canfield, members of the West Plains School Board, Rep. Granvil Vaughan, and interested citizens were given the mechanics of organizing a state junior college district by Fred Davis. Davis is the director of junior college education in the state department of education.

Davis told the group that it is the desire of the state board of education that a district have an assessed evaluation of $60,000,000 and to reach this figure Howell County would need at least seven other counties to join in the undertaking to form a junior college district.

But because of the expansive area of seven South-Central counties that would reach as far as 50 miles in three directions from West Plains, it was decided that a three-county junior college district would be more feasible.

By the residents of the three counties voting themselves into a junior college district, and the district approved by the state, the college would become eligible for state funds amounting to approximately $240 per student. There are already nine junior college districts in Missouri and The Howell-Ozark - Oregon district would be the 10th.

Davis explained to the group that to form a junior college district it would require a simple majority vote in the three counties and a legal petition signed by five percent of the eligible voters. The election would also name a junior college board of trustees that would have the power to set a college levy up to 40 cents in the three counties.

The reasoning at last night's meeting was that, with a maximum 10 cent junior college levy on the three county assessed valuation of around $60,000,000, together with state funds amounting to $240 per student, a junior college could be established and operated along the lines of the West Plains Resident Center and have a surplus of some $60,000 a year for a building fund.

These figures did not include the revenue of a student tuition that could be included in operating funds.

It was disclosed last night that the Southwest Missouri State College board of regents has already gone on record as having decided not to support the branch education center in West Plains after this year. It was understood, however, that if the people of the area served by the SMS Resident Center were in the process of establishing a junior college the Resident Center here might be continued for an undetermined time.

The junior college official from Jefferson City told a reporter that if this area of the state is not ripe now for a junior college "it is certainly becoming ripe."

Davis said that where the other nine state junior college districts were formed there has never been a failure in an election and that the colleges were serving thousands of students who might not otherwise have the opportunity for a higher education.

Green Tells Club

College Center Here Can Grow If Given Funds

"State funds for the operation of the SMS Residence Center in West Plains may be allocated during the next legislative session," Marvin W. Green, director of the center here, told Kiwanis Club members at a regular noon luncheon at the Holiday Inn here today.

Green said, "Considerable growth in the enrollment at the residence center is anticipated. Some funds specifically for the center would make it possible to lower fees and expand the curriculum. This would increase enrollment," according to Green.

possible to lower fees and expand the curriculum. This would increase enrollment," according to Green.

"The program will never experience maximum growth as long as the operation is unstable, being approved only from year to year. Without stability, the program cannot be publicized, students cannot be recruited, advanced curriculum planning cannot be done and teachers cannot be readily replaced."

"The center must offer courses in which students are most interested and the hiring of teachering who are qualified to teach courses which have the greatest demand is very important. At the present time we are making a special effort to offer interesting courses."

"Separate facilities would contribute to growth of enrollment. Many of the college classes can be taught in the present high school facilities for some time. But semi-separate offices, student lounge facilities and a few classrooms would better the college operation.

"Classrooms would allow a limited number of courses to be offered during the day and separate lounge areas would contribute to a college atmosphere."

"Since there is no one best college for all students, there may be students near West Plains that should attend elsewhere. But I do feel strongly that the program should be fully understood in order that it will not be overlooked by those for whom it best suited."

"For example, students should understand that the SMS Residence Center is a branch of the Southwest Missouri State College in Springfield. All courses completed at the residence center are identical to and carry the same credits as comparable courses completed at other state colleges. The average estimated costs (including board and room) for attending a state college in Missouri will be over twice the cost at the residence center."

"Sufficient courses are offered to satisfy all of the basic requirements for a bachelor's degree."

September 9, 1968
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

Record Number Enroll At College Center

Registering students today through Friday at the Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center here is expected to boost the already record enrollment of 250, according to Marvin Green, director of the Center.

Green said, "The growth of enrollment reflects the increased demand for a program of higher education in this area."

The record number of 250, who registered Saturday, represents 73 more than registered for the 1968 spring semester, which is about a 40 percent increase.

Green also said that students may continue to register throughout the week, as the deadline for entering students will be Friday.

Three Times As Many Married Women As Married Men Attend SMS College Residence Center

Anyone visiting Southwest Missouri State College Resident Center in West Plains may wonder at the number of "older" students, especially women attending classes at the center, where the ratio is about one older student out of three.

However, the trend today seems to indicate that more and more of these older men and women are returning to college or beginning classes for the first time in order to find future adequate employment.

This is apparent and very true of students at the Residence Center in West Plains. Some of these "older" students have been out of school for several years, have raised families and sent children to college. Many of them will graduate from college the same year as their children. The question then is why do these persons, who seemingly have filled their role in society, returned to further their education.

Women seem to be returning to the Residence Center in larger numbers than men, although there are several older men enrolled. A recent national survey places the age of most such women at 35, and states that the majority of them have had two years of college work before undertaking marriage and child-bearing.

This would indicate that a great number of those returning to the college classrooms to complete their undergraduate work would upon finishing it, still have from 20 to 30 years left to devote to a teaching career. SMSRC welcomes such mature women into the ranks of its student body, according to Center Director Marvin Green.

Of the present enrollment at the Residence Center, some 147 women are enrolled with 64 of them married while 83 are single. This is in comparison with 111 men enrolled, 91 of them single and 20 married.

One of the prime reasons that married women return to college apparently is that they seem to think that it now takes two to make a living for a family. "My husband helps with the children so I can go evenings to class. This way we hope to make it together," one student commented.

Many of these women hold down full or part time jobs and still demonstrate that they can "compete" with the best of learners who have

At the Center there are presently 89 students who work over 30 hours, many of the older women also are attending college classes. Of the total enrollment of 258 students, only 116 of them are not working at least part time. This includes students of all ages.

Other statistics concerning the center shows that there are 116 students, both young and older students who are carrying a full schedule (12 or more hours). Thirty-three students are carrying eight to 11 hours, and 49 students are carrying from one to seven hours.

Of the total number of students presently enrolled at the Center, 94 have attended here before, while 164 are attending for the first time.

West Plains has the largest number of persons in classes here; Willow Springs has 22 students attending and Mtn. View and Thayer each having 12 persons attending the center.

Other students come from Pottersville, Hocomo, Cabool, Winona, Moody, Eminence, Myrtle, Pomona, Mammoth Springs, Gainesville, Koshkonong, Couch, Viola, Ark., Axtell, Fremont, Summersville, Birch Tree, Elijah, Alton, Peace Valley, Dora, and Salem, Ark. This includes persons from a nine-county area now attending the center.

December 19, 1967
WEST PLAINS DAILY QUILL, WEST PLAINS, MO.

Residence Center Here Accredited And Unique In Student Attention

By Jeanette Brisure

"Maybe now I'll get caught up!" and "Just let me sleep!" are two exclamations which have been thought or expressed by college and university students throughout the United States who have returned home for the Christmas vacation. As in other schools of higher education, college students at Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center were anxious for that last class, but the atmosphere in which the faculty and students departed was not an exhausted relief but rather, highlighted by the Center's Christmas party.

The S.M.S. Residence Center is the West Plains branch of Southwest Missouri State College in Springfield. Therefore, students who attend the Residence Center enjoy the prestige of being affiliated with one of the leading state colleges in Missouri. All courses offered at the Center are identical to and carry the same credit as those offered on the campus in Springfield. All full time faculty members of the Residence Center are qualified teachers holding master's degrees or more. The two years of work at the Residence Center enables a student to continue his college career at any accredited institution of higher learning.

A recent follow-up of all students who have attended the Residence Center shows that standards at the Center compare favorably with those of other colleges. Further indicated by this study is the fact that a significantly large percentage of Residence Center students transferring to other institutions for completion of their college work either maintained or raised their grade averages. Furthermore, it is the aim of the Center to continue to expand its program. Ten new courses have been added to the Spring Semester schedule here making a total of 34 different courses which satisfy the basic requirements leading to a college degree. The courses have college credit applying toward the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Education, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Bachelor of Music.

Because West Plains is approximately 100 miles from the closest college, the Residence Center's location makes it possible for residents of this part of the state to attend college while living at home. Therefore, the Center draws students from some eight counties and 22 cities and towns. Students living at home or within commuting distance are able to complete two years of general college work at a cost considerably less than that at most accredited colleges in the state. Approximate cost of attending the Residence Center for one year is $500. ($400 for fees plus $100 for books) The average estimated cost (including board and room) for attending a state college in Missouri will be over twice the cost at the Residence Center here. For private colleges the expense will be three or four times the cost.

Many scholarships are given here, and there are frequently job openings in the area for students interested in part-time or full-time employment. The college hours, 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday nights, make it possible for many students to hold day-time jobs and carry a course load adapted to fit their available time in the evening. Some students here save enough money to finance his junior and senior years at another college or university.

The Residence Center classes are held in the West Plains Senior High School, but this is the only way in which it can be connected with the secondary school. The college students and college faculty have made the atmosphere much the same as that of the institutions which they previously attended. Double cuts before holidays, a skip, essays, mid-term exams, finals, term papers, comprehensive tests, and allowing the teacher 15 minutes to arrive in class or a mass exodus occurs -- these too are a part of the Residence Center. Dances are organized Friday nights after classes; there are intramural sports; various entertaining and informative assemblies; and recently the Christmas banquet and dance where everyone seemed to have warm feelings of togetherness along with the joy of the Christmas season. This began the Center's vacation.

Each student at the Residence Center remains an individual in the friendly, personalized college atmosphere,

Climb Up Through Education

A student at Southwest Missouri State Residence Center in West Plains who is also a reporter for the Daily Quill, Beverly Mitchell, wrote the following story for the college journalism class of Miss Ruth Temple. The article was forwarded to the Daily Quill for publication.

by Beverly Mitchell

That one-room shanty across the railroad tracks houses nine people who think life is against them!

That 30-room mansion on the other side of the tracks houses three people who know life is for them!

And the seven-room house that provides shelter for five people who once lived in a one-room shanty, is proof that education does make a difference between merely subsistence or plenty!

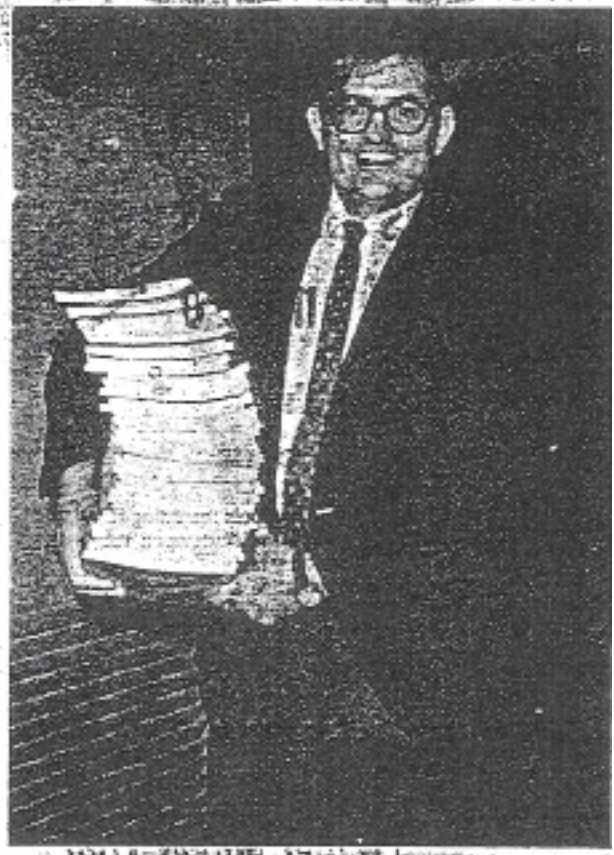
How can education be pegged as the alleviator of economical woes? The Economics instructor at Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center in West Plains, Vernon Cooper, says that education, and very especially, in the field of economics, helps persons understand the criteria which form their economic conditions.

One of the more easily understood courses in economics will be offered this coming spring semester at SMSRC, and will be taught by Cooper. Consumer Economics 175 is geared to the lay person, the one who wishes to know why he lives as he does. This course is "a study of economic problems of concern to the individual and to the household, and practice in the use of consumer aids" according to the SMS catalogue.

Just who is this consumer? You, me, and everyone, because we all take money to the stores and exchange it for goods. Consumer economics is designed to help you and me, the consumers, better understand the economic system. With this understanding we, the consumers, can learn the theories behind spending, buying, selling, inflation, rising and lowering markets, and even the employment trends.

"With these principles in mind, the man from the one-room shanty can use this knowledge to turn the tables on his economic condition. He will learn the reasons why the poor usually stay poor. But he will also, become aware, at least in theory, of how he can change his situation.

Consumer Economics, aimed at revealing the consumer's problems, is available to any student. With this tool at hand, why should anyone continue to live on the one-room shanty level?



Vernon Cooper

JANUARY 29, 1969

The American Dream Is Very Much Alive In West Plains

"People in West Plains are keeping the American Dream alive," Dr. Virginia Botsford told Rotarians here today.

An assistant professor at Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center here, Dr. Botsford was the speaker at the Rotary Club's noon luncheon at Holiday Inn. She was asked to speak on her impression of the Ozarks.

When Miss Botsford arrived in West Plains to begin teaching at SMSRC last summer, "I had had all of the militants and all of the students' desire to destroy and not to learn that I could stand," she told Rotarians. "The beautiful, beautiful green scenery I saw here was refreshing and inspiring. The air was clear."

Miss Botsford said she was impressed by the Old Southern characteristics of City Square and the fact that she could buy a good meal in West Plains for less than one dollar when it cost twice that amount elsewhere.

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY

While in a cafe just off the square when she first came to West Plains, Miss Botsford said she just sat and listened to other persons there, and "I heard America talking."

"Here were smiling faces and people with a purpose," she said. People in the West Plains area still take time to live and as a result they are creative, according to Miss Botsford. "People here are proud of their native art."

When told by an operator when she first used a pay phone in West Plains that she needed only to use a nickle and not a dime, Miss Botsford said she felt the calendar had been rolled back.

Talking briefly about the Residence Center, Miss Botsford said that freshmen here were similar to others across the nation. "It was the older students that amazed me," she said. "They were above the average."

Some of the Residence Center students were driving round trips of 80 miles and working all day, struggling to be able to attend college classes at night here, she said.

Different than many students in the United States today, the students here were grateful for the opportunity to learn, according to Miss Botsford. In fact, she told Rotarians, many actually want to read and learn more than was assigned.

"The biggest business potential for West Plains is the Residence Center," she said. Over a five-year period, enrollment at the center has doubled. "It could grow tremendously if the center had separate facilities," she said.

"Let's keep the American Dream

JULY 10, 1969

33 Courses, 40 Classes At SMS College Here This Fall

A total of 33 courses will be offered in 40 classes during the evening sessions at Southwest Missouri State College Residence Center in West Plains during the fall semester, Dean Marvin Green announced today.

A total of eight courses are being offered for the first time during the fall semester which will enable students to add several hours to their college program.

The complete schedule for the coming term has been announced by Green including course numbers, credit hours, time taught, days, and instructors. They include:

Roy Hathcock, Introduction to Art 100, 7 to 10:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, three hours credit.

Mrs. Bill Briscoe, Introduction to Business 135, 8 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, three hours credit.

Gary Reed, Grade Methods 225, 5 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Dr. Virginia Botsford, Effective Study and Mechanics of English 8, 5 p.m. MWF, one hour credit; Introduction to Literature, 80, 4 p.m. MWF, three hours credit; Masterpieces of Greek and Roman Drama 188, 7 p.m. T-TH, two hours credit, and High School Literature 202, 8 to 9:30 p.m. T-Th, three hours credit.

Miss Ruth Temple, Composition 10, two sessions, 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. MTWThF, three hours credit, and Composition 11, 4 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Roy Mayfield, Composition 11, two sessions at 4 p.m. MWF, and 5 p.m. MWF, three hours credit; Composition 50, 5 p.m. MWF, three hours credit and Survey of English Literature I. 240, 7 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Dr. Virginia Botsford, Latin and Greek Elements in English, CLA 15, 6 p.m. MF, two hours credit.

Miss Ruth Temple, Elementary Spanish, SPN 15, 6 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Vernon Cooper, Introduction to Geography 100, 6 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Mrs. Richard Silvey, History of Civilization 100, two sessions at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. MWF, three hours credit; Survey of the History of the U.S., 121, 9 p.m. MWF, three hours credit, and History of Missouri 338, 6 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Nell Pamperien, College Algebra 35, 7 p.m. MWF, three hours credit; Introduction to Mathematics 70, 6 p.m. MWF, three hours credit, and Arithmetic for Teachers 110, 7 p.m. TTh, two hours credit.

No instructor has been named for the Music Fundamentals 103 class to be taught at 6 p.m. TTh, two hours credit.

Mrs. Betty Renfrow, Fundamentals of Movement, MPELLO, 4 p.m. TTh, one hour credit; Folk and Square Dance, PED126, 5 p.m. TTh, one hour credit.

Fred Murrell, Fundamentals of Physical Activity, MPELLO, 6 p.m. TTh, one hour credit and Soccer-Volleyball, MPE 118, 7 p.m. TTh, one hour credit.

Vernon Cooper, American Government; Legislation, 101, 9 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Nell Pamperien, Physical Science for Elementary Teachers, SCE101, 8 p.m. MW, with lab at 8 to 10 p.m. TTh, four hours credit.

Richard Cochran, General Botany 134, 7 p.m. MWF, with lab at 6 to 8 p.m. TTh, five hours credit, and General Zoology 167, 8 p.m. MWF, with lab at 6 to 10 p.m. Th, five hours credit.

Marvin Green, Principles of Sociology 150, two sessions, at 4 and 9 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Vernon Cooper, Principles of Economics I, ECO 155, two sessions, 5 and 7 p.m. MWF, three hours credit.

Mrs. Jack Garrett, Public Speaking 125, 9 p.m. MWF, two hours credit.

Second Twenty-Five Years

As the West Plains Campus of Southwest Missouri began its second twenty-five years, its new mission re-affirmed its major role as a state institution whose inent was to provide students with a quality, basic education which would allow them to become proficient in marketable skills applicable to vocations and careers within the geographic radius of the West Plains Campus.

The lists of students who began their education at West Plains indicated that the West Plains Campus was fulfilling its mission. Former students received honors in fields such as nursing, education, business, law, medicine and journalism; in fact, in some aspect virtually every person in the seven county area had been touched in some way by the West Plains campus. Moreover, according to a fall 1985 survey regarding the students attitudes about the West Plains campus, sixty-eight percent indicated they were content with the variety of courses available, eighty-nine percent demonstrated that they were satisfied with the general education program provided, and eighty-two percent noted that they were pleased with the course offerings in their majors. These percentages were due in part to the fact that the students had input into the decision-making process regarding curriculum.

According to actual monetary turns generated by the fiscal budget of SMSU-West Plains, the West Plains Community benefited from four and one half turns or more than seven million dollars of income derived from the West Plains campus through its budget, student loans, and scholarships, and from money spent by students employed in the community to support and receive their education.

Situated twenty miles north of the Arkansas border and 110 miles from any college town, West Plains is again considered a growth area because of the demographic shifts (a ten percent population growth in the last twenty years) and the increased industrial activities revolving around the town. In 1984 the population for the seven county areas was 103,743, but by the year 2000 a total population of 167,700 is anticipated. Nevertheless, primarily an agricultural area, the region has remained economically deprived since in 1987 one out of every four families in the area had an income below the nationally defined poverty level of $10,000. In fact, in 1986, the median family income in

the region was $11,049 as compared to $18,746 in the state of Missouri and $19,000 in the nation.

More importantly, according to a 1988 survey, sixty-two percent of the students enrolled at the Branch Campus who lived within a fifty mile radius of it indicated they could not have afforded college if the West Plains Campus had not be accessible to them.

MSU-WP announced a new advanced Fabrication/welding technology program

The advanced fabrication/welding technology program will prepare students for careers in the manufacturing field by focusing on such skills as structural design and fabrication, automated systems and robotic arc welding.The program can be completed as a stand-alone, 25-credit-hour certificate program in two semesters or as an option of the Associate of Applied Science in Technology degree in two years.

The curriculum has expanded to include:

- Associate of Applied Science in Computer Graphics and Programming
- Computer Graphics and Programming (AAS)
- Associate of Applied Science

The Associate of Applied Science in Computer Graphics and Programming is designed to prepare students for a career in game design and programming. This academic guide is based on the 2021-2022 Missouri State University–West Plains Catalog. The time to complete the degree will vary, depending on the degree option taken, remediation, summer enrollment,

And a unique program for students with Autism has been created:

ASCEND Program designed to support students with autism
Mikala King selected to lead the program
2022 April 22 by University Communications
A new program at Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) will help area students with autism transition into college and toward a life of

personal success and independence.
The ASCEND (Autism Support Can Empower New Directions) Program is the first of its kind in southern Missouri. It will offer specialized support services for students with autism who wish to embark on a traditional college degree path to reach personally-chosen goals, university officials said. "Students with autism face a unique set of challenges that can make it difficult for them to reach their full potential, academically and in life. Through ASCEND, we hope to help these students develop the skills they need to achieve their goals in both areas," MSU-WP Chancellor Dennis Lancaster said, "We hope to encourage and foster self-confidence, self-advocacy and growing independence in our students with autism through ASCEND,- said Dr. Angela Totty, dean of student services. "By understanding their strengths and weaknesses, we can help them learn and apply skills and strategies to successfully navigate the demands of college life."

A core team of highly trained individuals whose work will focus solely on the ASCEND Program will offer students structured support, scheduled guidance, individualized coaching, and peer and graduate mentoring that will help the students develop independence and accountability.

For Autism Student Support Center, West Plains Campus This project includes a new Autism Center facility for the West Plains campus, which will house the ASCEND program and serves as a home base for students attending the University who are on the spectrum. It will also provide classroom space for degrees that have an emphasis in autism and neurodiversity support. This will be an important resource for the community and needs to be visible and easily accessible. The new facility will house offices, student hang-out space, sensory garden, receptionist's desk, work room, decompression rooms, a meeting room, and two classrooms. The facility will be located to the west of Gohn Hall and south of the amphitheater.

And while athletics thrive, a new program involving gaming was started. The first tournament held in Washington DC had a second place win by MSU WP students, one of which was autistic but gifted.

Current Course Offerings

The campus offers a plethora of degrees: AA, AAS, AS, AAT and Certificates. https://wp.missouristate.edu/academics/programs.htm
For example, the AAS in Culinary and Hospitality Leadership gives students

While I could not determine how many courses are being taught, many offered online, the numbers tell a story of the growth from 1963 of just over a hundred students:

- *Located in a city of 12,184, West Plains is approximately 100 miles southeast of Springfield.*
- *Approximately 1,953 students are enrolled in part-time or full-time studies.*
- *The average class size* is 12.*
- *Students* come from 64 counties, 25 states and 8 countries.*
- *97% percent of degree-seeking students^ receive some form of financial aid*

There were five Residence Centers during the time the West Plains Residence Center opened, only the one here still exists. It is still flourishing and has created immense and immeasurably opportunities for the area for students and has created growth and prosperity in West Plains and surrounding areas.

a foundation and a stepping-stone for advancement and educational career pathways in the culinary and hospitality industry.

Another degree is in Viticulture, Wine Business and Entrepreneurship.

The 42-Hour General Education Transfer Block:

The Coordinating Board for the Higher Education in Missouri approved a new general education transfer policy in 2000. This policy requires all participating institutions (public and private) in the state to designate a general education block consisting of at least 42 semester hours of credit which addresses 8 state-defined general education goals. Students who complete the 42-hour general education block at Missouri State-West Plains may transfer to another participating institution and have their block treated as equivalent to the general education block of the receiving institution.

Information about the Associate of Arts in General Studies which contains the 42-hour block of general education courses can be found at: https://wp.missouristate.edu/Academics/general-studies.htm.

In closing, the book says:

"West Plains and the Central Ozarks region has neither lost its enthusiasm nor its support for the little Residence Center that would not go away; instead, as the West Plains Campus of Southwest Missouri State University embarks on its journey toward the twenty-first century and its 50th anniversary in 2013 a new coalition of supporters, still non-partisan, but sometimes momentarily symbiotic, has taken up the dichotomous struggle of maintaining academic excellence and stability while anticipating and promoting innovative educational trends that will stimulate the intellectual curiosity of the future generations of students and prepare them for full participation in a democratic society."

Who knew it would come to this?

For me, I got not only an opportunity to live at home or nearby in my first three semesters of college finishing my degree at Mizzou that propelled me into a very interesting career in computers. Then when those jobs started diminishing, I returned to get a nursing degree and finishing a BSN online at MIZZOU which allowed me to work part time during my 60's phasing into retirement.So anybody regardless of age and circumstances can continue with their education.

Wayne Wisehart was a 1963 student and said how his life changed because he went to school at the Residence Center.
"While I wasn't at the extension center very long, it was extremely valuable to me. I wanted to go to college but couldn't afford any place else. Even though I pretty much skated through there, it gave me the start I needed. I ended up getting my BS in business from University of Missouri-St Louis, after a 4 year stint in the Air Force. If I hadn't started at West Plains, I'm not so sure I would have ever gone on to college. So it was a big deal."

It's never too late to continue to learn. And MSU West Plains allows us to do just that.

In the late 90's, Marie and I started fundraising for a Scholarship entitled "The Heritage Scholarship of 63." We only raised about $1,500 but at the 50th reunion, MSU WP had a dinner and donated the proceeds to our Scholarship for $10,000 which funds non-traditional students.

Camilla O'Neal and her husband also started a scholarship for non-traditional students: The Graham and Connie O'Neal Scholarship Fund of Missouri State University, West Plains or the West Plains Public Library Foundation.

And it's never too late to continue giving.

Obituary of Camilla "Connie" O'Neal

Camilla "Connie" O'Neal passed away on July 24, 2020 at the home of her son Grant and his wife Patty O'Neal in Columbia.
Memorial services will be held at a later date.
Dr. Camilla "Connie" D. O'Neal, professor emeritus of English and Education was born in Rector, Arkansas to Ernest Guill and Ida Mae Vowell Guill on April 9, 1931. Dr. O'Neal was married to Graham Justus O'Neal on July 24, 1948 at the First Methodist Church in New Madrid, and passed on their 72nd wedding anniversary.
Dr. O'Neal was a graduate of Paragould High School and received the following college degrees Summa Cum Laud: a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi; a specialist degree in college teaching from Arkansas State University; and a Master's Degree and Bachelor's Degree in English and Education from Missouri State University (SMSU). She did post-graduate work in English at Cambridge University, Cambridge, England and Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. Her honors included induction into Phi Kappa Phi and Kappa Delta Pi and receiving the Missouri Governor's Teaching Award in 1995 from Gov. Mel Carnahan and the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education, and the MSU-WP Distinguished Faculty Award in 2012.

Dr. O'Neal supported her community as a board member of several organizations, including the West Plains Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of the Greater West Plains Area, the West Plains Council on the Arts, the Missouri Association of Teachers of English, the National Association of Teacher of English, the Language Arts Department of Southwest Missouri, and the Community Teachers Association. She was a den mother, a Girl Scout leader, a member of the Missouri Humanities Council, the West Plains Public Library Foundation Board and Chapter CM of P.E.O. which she served as acting president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. She was a dedicated member of the First United Methodist Church, where she was a past member of the finance committee, the board of trustees, a youth group leader, church school coordinator, student scholarship and loan fund committee chairman, president of the Methodist Women, and a member of the Elizabeth Group. For her work in the women's groups she was honored with two lifetime memberships.

Survivors include daughter, Kathleen (Toney) Aid, daughter-in-law, Kay O'Neal, widow of Scott O'Neal, all of West Plains, and son Grant (Patty) O'Neal of Columbia; grandchildren: Hilary (Mason) Aid, and Rachel (Daniel) Beaman, Columbia, Graham Aid, Stockholm, Sweden, Leslie O'Neal, Kansas City, Rebecca Cuscaden Marvin (Sam), Newton, Massachusetts, Ryan Cuscaden, Maplewood; and three great-grandchildren, Columbia.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Graham; son, Scott O'Neal; her parents; two brothers: Dwight Guill and Lavaughan Guill; and one sister, Bonda Stevenson.

Contributions may be made to the Graham and Connie O'Neal Scholarship Fund of Missouri State University, West Plains or the West Plains Public Library Foundation.

What is amazing upon talking to her daughter Kathleen Aid was that Ca-

milla O'Neal didn't even start college until she was 40 years old. Both she and her husband won scholarships right out of high school in different states so they eloped instead. Her husband went back to school after she completed her first degree. And look what she accomplished in her academic career after she applied herself as a non-traditional adult learner.

And since she was raising a family and lived in West Plains, she had no opportunity to go to a college away from home. But she went to MSU WP and excelled as a professor and in leadership in her community.

She is an inspiration to those whose aspirations may have been put on hold to see what is possible in later life. And she published her PhD Thesis on the History of West Plains Residence Center.

The End